

## STATE SUES OVER PRESIDENT SENDING IN GUARD

California officials say Trump overstepped authority and violated the 10th Amendment limiting federal power.

BY LAURA J. NELSON  
AND KEVIN RECTOR

California officials on Monday said they filed a federal lawsuit over the mobilization of the state's National Guard during the weekend's immigration protests in Los Angeles, accusing President Trump of overstepping his federal authority and violating the U.S. Constitution.

As thousands of people gathered in the streets to protest raids and arrests by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Trump mobilized nearly 2,000 members of the National Guard over the objections of California Gov. Gavin Newsom, who said that state officials could handle the situation and that Trump was sowing chaos in the streets for political purposes.

California Atty. Gen. Rob Bonta said the decision by Trump and U.S. Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth violated the 10th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which spells out the limits of federal power. Bonta said the state will seek a restraining order for the "unlawful, unprecedented" deployment of the National Guard, and states in the 22-page lawsuit that an impending deployment of U.S. Marines was "similarly unlawful."

"Trump and Hegseth ignored law enforcement's expertise and guidance and trampled over our state's, California's, sovereignty," Bonta said at a Monday news conference.

Experts and state officials say Trump's actions and the subsequent lawsuit have thrust the U.S. into uncharted legal territory. Bonta said there have not been many court rulings on the questions at play because the statute Trump cited "has been rarely used, for good reason."

"It is very unusual and unnecessary, and out of keeping with our constitutional tradition, that they are there without the consent of the governor, in a situation where the governor says that state authorities have the situation under control," said Laura A. Dickinson, a professor at the George Washington University Law School.

Whether Trump's action was illegal, Dickinson said, "is really untested."

[See Lawsuit, A7]



CHP OFFICERS stand in line near the Edward R. Roybal Federal Building in downtown L.A. on Monday.

## Breakdown between Trump, Newsom deepens over crisis

President and governor provide differing accounts of their conversation on handling the protests as situation intensifies

BY MICHAEL WILNER  
AND JULIA WICK

WASHINGTON — The governor and the president are talking past each other.

The two men, despite their politics and ambition, have worked together before, through devastating fires and a historic pandemic. But as immigration raids roil Los Angeles, President Trump and Gov. Gavin Newsom cannot even agree on how they left their last conversation, late on Friday evening on the East Coast, as protests picked up around the city.

Aides to Trump told The Times he issued a clear warning: "Get the police in gear." His patience would last less than 24 hours before he chose a historic path, federalizing the National Guard against the wishes of state and local officials.

The governor, on the other hand, [See Crisis, A6]



Bloomberg

PRESIDENT Trump raised the specter of Gov. Gavin Newsom's arrest.

## How ICE raids could disrupt state's economy

BY LAURENCE DARMIENTO  
AND SAMANTHA MASUNAGA

President Trump promised a new "golden age" for America, but it's been anything but that for Los Angeles, with its dependence on trade and immigrant labor — two backbones of the region's economy.

First, the president's tariffs cut deeply into traffic at the ports of Los

Angeles and Long Beach, and now his push to arrest undocumented immigrants at worksites, which has spurred massive protests after Trump deployed the National Guard, threatens a one-two punch to a region just starting its recovery from January's fire storms.

"The reality is that the U.S. economy is largely today dependent upon foreign-born labor — and in California more so," said Nicholas Eberstadt, a [See Economy, A7]

### Mexican leader speaks

President Sheinbaum condemns the violence in L.A. and stops short of faulting Trump. **WORLD, A3**

### Newsom-Trump conflict

Federal raids draw the governor back into the Democratic resistance against president. **NATION, A6**

### Home Depot in middle

Immigration raids, protests and clashes put the retail chain in a tough spot. **BUSINESS, A10**

### Peaceful protest in L.A.

Thousands of union and migrant supporters sang, chanted and held signs in Grand Park. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

## Marines ordered to L.A. amid unrest

Trump and state officials at odds over federal escalation of troop presence amid protests and damage.

BY GRACE TOOHEY,  
HAILEY BRANSON-POTTS,  
JAMES QUEALLY,  
HANNAH FRY,  
MATTHEW ORMSETH,  
REBECCA ELLIS  
AND RACHEL URANGA

A standoff between California officials and the Trump administration over immigration raids intensified Monday as the federal government said it was sending 700 Marines to Los Angeles and as local police worked to quell several days of unrest in downtown Los Angeles.

The Marine deployment comes even though California officials have said federal assistance is not needed and is actually inflaming tensions. There have been intense but isolated clashes between protesters and authorities for several days after a series of high-profile immigration arrests.

Late Sunday and early Monday some businesses were vandalized and burglarized downtown, concluding hours of unrest that saw Waymo cars burned, police cruisers struck with rocks and electric scooters, and various forms of vandalism downtown and in the Civic Center. Although most of the problems occurred within a few blocks, they have taken on worldwide attention after President Trump deployed the National Guard to L.A.

On Monday, a senior Trump administration official told The Times that the deployment of 700 active-duty U.S. Marines from Camp Pendleton to Los Angeles would occur "in light of increased threats against federal officers and federal buildings."

So far, the Guard has been mostly stationed at federal buildings while local police handle the protests.

California officials have decried the violent activities on the streets of L.A. and said that illegal behavior will not be tolerated. Officers have made at least 40 arrests linked to vandalism and violence during the Los Angeles protests, Gov. Gavin Newsom said Monday.

Los Angeles Police Chief Jim McDonnell said Sunday [See Protests, A8]

## A split is coming for media giant Warner Bros. Discovery



## Lethal algae bloom is now over, but marine wildlife not safe yet



# CALIFORNIA

TUESDAY, JUNE 10, 2025 :: LATIMES.COM/CALIFORNIA



ROBERT GAUTHIER Los Angeles Times

AT GRAND PARK in downtown L.A., protesters call for the release of union leader David Huerta, who was detained by ICE agents.

## Peaceful, boisterous but angry

Thousands protest in Grand Park over union leader's arrest and raids.

BY HAILEY BRANSON-POTTS

Thousands of union members, immigrants' rights activists and supporters gathered in Grand Park in downtown Los Angeles on Monday afternoon to demand the release of David Huerta, the California union president arrested and injured during Immigration and Customs Enforcement raids last week.

The protesters were peaceful and boisterous. They sang, chanted, and held signs with slogans such as, "Warm Margaritas B-Cuz F— ICE." Their presence was in contrast to the downtown surrounding them, which was quiet, vandalized and lined with police and National Guard vehicles.

"It's been a weekend of chaos, not initiated by the working people, the working immigrants of Los Angeles," Arnulfo De La Cruz, president of Service Employees International Union Local 2015, said in an interview at the rally, which was organized by the union.

"The ICE raids," he added, "are having a traumatizing and devastating impact on our community ... and we have very serious concerns about the conditions of the people that they're picking up."

And he said it was important to remember that in Los Angeles, "thousands and thousands of immigrant workers are now having to get through the National Guard, the LAPD, the L.A. County sheriffs, just to be able to get to work, with the fear that they might not come home and that their children might not be picked up from school."

"I don't think those are California values," De La Cruz said. "Right?"

Huerta, the 58-year-old president of SEIU California, was arrested Friday while documenting an immigration enforcement raid



MYUNG J. CHUN Los Angeles Times

AN OFFICER kicks tear gas back toward the crowd Saturday during an anti-ICE protest.

## City is caught up in ICE raids

Paramount, a proud blue-collar suburb, is shaken by clashes between federal agents, protesters.

BY NATHAN SOLIS AND MELODY PETERSEN

Jessica Juarez walked along Alondra Boulevard with a trash bag full of spent gas canisters, her voice hoarse as she helped clean her community with other residents Sunday morning.

The volunteers were parents and neighbors in Paramount, armed with plastic bags, latex gloves and face masks.

An acrid odor lingered in the air the day after law enforcement fired gas canisters and flash-bang grenades at protesters on Alondra.

"I'm proud of our community, of the strength we showed," Juarez, 40, said. "It's like they put so much fear into Paramount, and for what? These guys didn't even clean up after themselves."

Paramount was thrown into the national spotlight over the

weekend as the Trump administration on Saturday said it would send 2,000 National Guard troops into Los Angeles after a second day in which protesters confronted immigration agents during raids of local businesses.

Tension rose again Sunday in the Los Angeles area as protesters faced off with federal and local authorities in downtown L.A.

Paramount, a small city of 54,000 in southeastern Los Angeles County, is known for how its residents and government officials worked in the 1980s to trans-

[See Paramount, B5]

## Baldoni lawsuit against Lively is tossed

Judge also blocks a case against New York Times, which reported actor's allegations.

BY JOSH ROTTENBERG

In a sweeping decision capping one of Hollywood's most closely watched legal battles, a federal judge on Monday dismissed two high-stakes lawsuits brought by "It Ends With Us" director Justin Baldoni and his production company, Wayfarer Studios.

U.S. District Judge Lewis J. Liman ruled that wide-ranging claims against actress Blake Lively, her husband Ryan Reynolds, the New York Times and others — including defamation, extortion and breach of contract — failed to meet legal standards.

The dispute stemmed from a December 2024 New York Times article detailing sexual harassment allegations that Lively made against Baldoni during production of the romantic drama, based on a formal complaint she filed with California's Civil Rights Department.

Baldoni and Wayfarer alleged that the article — and Lively's broader conduct — were part of a retaliatory campaign to seize creative control of the film, exclude Baldoni from publicity efforts and harm his reputation.

Liman rejected those arguments. [See Baldoni, B2]

## State sues U.S. over demand for trans athlete ban

Lawsuit argues Justice Department oversteps by ordering schools to 'discriminate.'

BY KEVIN RECTOR AND HOWARD BLUME

California sued the U.S. Justice Department on Monday over its demand last week that local school districts ban transgender youth from competing in sports, arguing the federal agency had overstepped its authority in violation of both state and federal law.

The "pro-enforcement"

Voices GUSTAVO ARELLANO COLUMNIST

## Trump wants L.A. to burn. Rebel smarter



# Shaken residents clean up city after protests

[Paramount, from B1] form their hometown from a blighted "rust belt" community to one that gained national awards.

The city's website says that crime in Paramount, where more than 80% of residents are Latino, has fallen to all-time lows.

Residents say the chaotic clashes between federal immigration authorities and

protesters Saturday left them shaken.

Scorch marks in the intersection outside the Home Depot on Alondra show where flash-bang grenades went off.

Multiple police agencies responded to the city over the weekend. By Sunday morning, a group of camouflaged National Guard troops were stationed in a

business park with armored vehicles where a Department of Homeland Security office is located.

Union organizers and local residents Ardelia Aldridge and Alejandro Maldonado helped organize a cleanup effort in the neighborhood.

"It's solidarity Sunday," Aldridge said.

The images of Paramount shrouded in smoke and flanked by police in riot gear were a far cry from the close-knit community that was once named an "All-America City" and received a special commendation from the L.A. County Board of Supervisors for its turnaround.

"The whole community is just praying that things stay peaceful and the community moves forward," Mayor Peggy Lemons said in an interview Sunday.

"Paramount was all about a community of blue-collar workers who are doing their best to get by every day," Lemons said.

"Today there are people who are angry about the federal government coming into their city," she said. "That comes from fear."

On Saturday, federal officers fired smoke canisters at protesters near the business park, and that putrid green smoke descended onto the



CARLIN STEHL Los Angeles Times

**PROTESTERS** flee tear gas and flash-bang grenades fired at them Saturday.

nearby residential community.

"What else do you call it but an attack on Paramount and the people who live here?" Maldonado said. "People in the community were standing up to unjust immigration policies."

In many ways, Paramount became the starting point for the escalating federal response that has brought the National Guard.

"It really does seem like they wanted to pick a fight with the little guy," Aldridge said.

There's a palpable fear in the community, Pastor Brian Warth at Chapel of Change said as a band played an upbeat song during a Sunday service.

He watched Saturday afternoon as police fired tear gas and then was out Sunday morning to help clean up Alondra. He understands

that some people may have gotten out of hand during the protest but believes that people who were outside the business park simply wanted answers.

"And we still don't know what's going to happen next," he said.

"I'm pleased and shocked to see people here today," he said about the Sunday service. "There's a real unknown feeling. God is good. Paramount is good."



JASON ARMOND Los Angeles Times

**PROTESTERS** on the 101 Freeway in downtown L.A. on Sunday. A sign says, "The people never surrender."

## Angry about Trump's actions? Find a way to help L.A.'s own

[Arellano, from B1] and Criminals" and that his administration will stop at nothing "to liberate Los Angeles from the Migrant Invasion," we're going to do something about it.

But this? Throwing cinder blocks and e-scooters at California Highway Patrol cars from a 101 Freeway overpass? Ripping out the pink tables and benches from Gloria Molina Grand Park to create a makeshift barricade on Spring Street near City Hall? Tagging small businesses, vandalizing the old Los Angeles Times headquarters, skidding a car around the bandstand at La Placita Olvera?

That's supposed to keep immigrant families safe and defeat Trump?

This is what many people are muttering to themselves after a weekend of protests that ended with chaos in downtown Sunday night. LAPD Chief Jim McDonnell called the damage "disgusting." Bass posted on social media that "destruction and vandalism will not be tolerated in our City and those responsible will be held fully accountable." U.S. Sen. Alex Padilla told KTLA 5 News that it was "counterproductive." In a statement, Eastside Assemblymember Mark González decried "agitators [whose] actions are reckless, dangerous and playing into exactly what Trump wants."

Uprisings have a time and place, but not when they're a trap you willingly run into. That's what L.A. is dealing with now, and for weeks, if not months — years! — to come.

Trump called in the National Guard to set in motion his dream of crushing the city and using us as an example for other sanctuary jurisdictions of what happens if they dare defy him. L.A. is everything he loathes: diverse, immigrant-friendly, progressive and deeply opposed to him and his xenophobic agenda. He called in the Guard, even though the skirmishes between protesters and law enforcement that happened Friday in the garment district and Set in Pa-

Defense head Pete Hegseth has taken a break from his plan to scrub the names of civil rights heroes from naval ships — instead, he's threatening to send Marines to L.A.

Now, Trump is roaring on social media — "Paid insurrectionists" and "BRING IN THE TROOPS!!!" — like the mad king he is. Now, law enforcement from across Southern California are descending on L.A. to keep the peace.

This is what Los Angeles deserves?

At moments like these, I remember the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s famous maxim that "a riot is the language of the unheard," even as he described riots in the same 1967 speech as "socially destructive and self-defeating." Most who took to the streets last weekend are righteously angry at what Trump has done, and plans to do, to L.A. But their fury was too easily co-opted by the few who want to wantonly destroy and used the cover of protest to do so.

L.A. is famously a city that turns on itself when people have had enough, from the Zoot Suit riots to the George Floyd protests, the Watts rebellion of 1965 and the L.A. uprising of 1992.

"We might fight amongst each other/But I promise you this: we'll burn this bitch down, get us pissed," Tupac Shakur sang in "To Live and Die in L.A."

It's a tendency I can't fully embrace or condemn — because I get both sides. But we can always do better — and we usually do. L.A. is also the city of the 2006 Day Without Immigrants, where hundreds of thousands peacefully marched through the same downtown streets now in shambles. Where students organize walkouts and sit-ins to fight for a better education. Where working class folks stage electoral upsets against the powers that be.

Revolts in L.A. don't always need literal flames — because the ones that burn brightest and longest are moral and philosophical.

So I challenge all the folks simmering with rage against Trump's war against L.A. and itching to do something

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Case Number (Numero del Caso): 24STCV03738

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111 North Hill Street  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

**The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: (El nombre, la direccion y el numero de telefono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es):**  
SALLY NOMA, NOMA LAW FIRM A.P.C.  
1901 Harrison Street, Suite 1100  
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#### SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)

Case Number (Numero del Caso): 24SMCV05525

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Nicole M. Nehoroff, Gilda Saddick, and Sammy Talaszian

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Santa Monica Courthouse  
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Santa Monica, California 90401

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# CALIFORNIA

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**VETERANS** of the Korean and Vietnam wars salute during a ceremony at Los Angeles National Cemetery.

CARLIN STIEHL Los Angeles Times

## FCC delays multilingual emergency alert system

Plan to aid immigrants during disasters was about to be adopted but is now in limbo.

BY JENNY JARVIE

California Rep. Nanette Diaz Barragán urged the Federal Communications Commission on Monday to follow through on plans to modernize the federal emergency alert system and provide multilingual alerts in natural disasters for residents who speak a language other than English at home.

The call comes nearly five months after deadly fires in Los Angeles threatened communities with a high proportion of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders — some with limited English proficiency — highlighting the need for multilingual alerts.

In a letter sent to Brendan Carr, the Republican

chair of the FCC, Barragán (D-San Pedro) expressed “deep concern” that the FCC under the Trump administration has delayed enabling multilingual Wireless Emergency Alerts for severe natural disasters such as wildfires, hurricanes, earthquakes and tsunamis.

“This is about saving lives,” Barragán said in an interview with The Times. “You’ve got about 68 million Americans that use a language other than English and everybody should have the ability to understand these emergency alerts. We shouldn’t be looking at any politicization of alerts — certainly not because someone’s an immigrant or they don’t know English.”

Multilingual emergency alerts should be in place across the nation, Barragán said. But the January Pacific Palisades and Eaton fires served as a reminder that the need is particularly acute in Los Angeles.

[See Multilingual, B2]

## A solemn pause to honor nation’s fallen

On Memorial Day, veterans and others throughout the region gather to remember those who died in service to the country

BY DEBORAH NETBURN

Dressed in a gray T-shirt with a large eagle emblazoned on the front, Gilbert Ibarra arrived at a small park in the town of Joshua Tree on Monday morning, thinking about the friends he lost at the tail end of the Vietnam War in 1975.

A former Marine, Ibarra said his unit took part in the Mayaguez incident that resulted in two of his buddies being left on an is-



**WHITE DOVES** are released at a Joshua Tree Memorial Park event that also included a bagpiper.

DEBORAH NETBURN Los Angeles Times

land near the Cambodian coast, where they probably were killed by the Khmer Rouge.

“They were 19,” Ibarra said, his eyes hidden behind dark sunglasses on this warm Memorial Day morning. “I’m here to remember my buddies. That’s the part I hold in my heart.”

Ibarra was among about 75 people who gathered Monday for an hour-long Memorial Day service at Joshua Tree Memorial

[See Ceremonies, B2]



TOM WILLIAMS CQ-Roll Call

“**THIS IS** about saving lives,” said Rep. Nanette Diaz Barragán, who urged the FCC to stop delaying action.

## Pushing against ‘sanctuary’ rules

Top U.S. prosecutor in L.A. targets jailed immigrants who reenter illegally.

BY RACHEL URANGA

The top federal prosecutor in Los Angeles is ratcheting up immigration enforcement in jails as the Trump administration looks for more ways to remove more immigrants from “sanctuary cities.”

U.S. Atty. Bill Essayli last week announced a pilot program dubbed “Operation Guardian Angel” that is intended to “neutralize” sanctuary state laws. The office identifies individuals with

criminal records who have been deported and charges them with illegally reentering the United States, a federal crime.

The tactic focuses federal resources at the main place sanctuary rules have impeded the work of immigration agents — county jails and state prisons.

“Under the Trump Administration we will not allow sanctuary jurisdictions to stand in the way of keeping the American People safe,” Essayli posted on X in announcing the program.

State officials say they already cooperate with federal officials in regard to immigrants who have committed crimes.

“While the Trump Administration may seek to

blame California as it grows desperate to deliver on its misguided, inhumane mass deportation agenda, immigration enforcement is and always has been the federal government’s job,” a spokesperson for California Atty. Gen. Rob Bonta said in a statement.

The practice of prosecuting individuals for illegal entry was widely employed under the Obama and second Bush administrations but fell out of use in recent years. The resumption of it could increase the number of immigration arrests in the region, experts say.

Essayli, a former state Assembly member and the son of Lebanese immigrants, was appointed last month. He told Fox News

that he created a dedicated group of federal officials to comb through databases to identify jailed immigrants who had been deported. The new effort could yield dozens of charges every week.

The administration has been frustrated with California’s policy that prohibits local law enforcement from arresting someone solely for a deportation order or holding someone in jail for extra time so immigration agents can detain them.

Immigration officials in the past relied on local police to help them with enforcement, but over the last decade California and other states have increased protections for immigrants. The state scaled back its involve-

[See Immigration, B5]

## Vandals disrupt, tag trains and buildings in downtown L.A.

Mob, which includes a man breathing fire, overruns subway cars. No arrests are made.

BY MATTHEW ORMSETH

The crowd gathered at midnight at Washington Boulevard and Maple Avenue.

It’s unclear why dozens of people converged at the intersection just south of downtown Los Angeles, but some were dressed to party,

wearing pink platform heels and cat ears, according to video shot by news outlet On-Scene.TV. A man gulped from a jug filled with a flammable liquid that he spat onto a torch, throwing flames into the night sky.

As a helicopter circled overhead, a man wearing a leather jacket clambered up a light pole, his feet perched on a street sign. He pulled out his phone and appeared to record himself talking into the camera.

The crowd’s attention turned to an A Line train, which had stopped along its



## Parole review follows drug test errors

Nearly 6,000 inmates in California may have been falsely flagged, hurting their chances for release.

BY SALVADOR HERNANDEZ

The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation is reviewing hundreds of state parole hearings to see if any inmates who were denied parole were rejected because of faulty drug tests.

Nearly 6,000 drug tests in California prisons are believed to have yielded false positives between April and July last year, and attorneys for the Board of Parole are now conducting a review of inmate files to determine if any of them need to appear before the parole board again to be reconsidered, according to officials with CDCR.

If any inmates were denied parole because of the faulty tests, they could be owed a new hearing before the parole board, said attorneys representing inmates affected by the defective drug tests.

The review is already underway and will determine if "without the positive drug screening, there is sufficient evidence to support an incarcerated person's denial of parole," CDCR spokesperson Emily Humpal said in a statement.

If there isn't enough evidence to support incarceration other than the drug test, a new hearing will be scheduled.

CDCR officials declined to provide details as to how many parole hearings were being reviewed, and whether any parole hearings had been rescheduled since the process began. More information will be available after the review is complete, the department said.

Representatives at UnCommon Law, a nonprofit advocacy group for inmates seeking parole, said parole board officials told their attorneys that the review involves at least 459 parole hearings, as well as dozens of

[See Opioids, A7]



LUKE JOHNSON Los Angeles Times

NANCY RODRIGUES adds flowers to a growing memorial in front of Baldwin Park City Hall on Sunday.

## Officer and civilian killed in Baldwin Park shooting

City's mayor calls it 'a night of tragedy for our community'

BY GRACE TOOHEY, RICHARD WINTON, MATTHEW ORMSETH, RUBEN VIVES AND ROGER VINCENT

A young Baldwin Park police officer, who loved the Dodgers and was an avid snowboarder, was killed in a shooting late Saturday that also left a civilian dead and

another officer injured.

Officer Samuel Riveros, 35, was identified Sunday as the officer who died, according to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. He had been rushed to Los Angeles County-USC Medical Center but was pronounced dead at the hospital, according to medical examiner's records. The injured officer, Anthony Pi-

mentel, was released from the hospital Sunday.

The identities of the male suspect accused of firing at the officers and the civilian man found shot to death near the shooting were not released as of Sunday afternoon. It appeared that the civilian was fatally shot before officers arrived.

"It's extremely tragic to have to deal with this," Baldwin

Park Police Chief Robert A. López said as he fought back tears during an early Sunday morning news conference.

López said Riveros loved to travel to Dodgers games and watch the team play at different stadiums.

"Officer Riveros gave his life in service to others, a profound testament to his

[See Officer, A12]

## Environmental law nearing a redo

Two bills seek to loosen landmark legislation in California. Passing them would send a signal that 'we're ready to build,' proponents say.

BY LIAM DILLON

When a landmark state environmental law threatened to halt enrollment at UC Berkeley, legislators stepped in and wrote an exemption. When the Sacramento Kings were about to leave town, lawmakers brushed the environmental rules aside for the team's new arena. When the law stymied the renovation of

the state Capitol, they acted once again.

Lawmakers' willingness to poke holes in the California Environmental Quality Act for specific projects without overhauling the law in general has led commentators to describe the changes as "Swiss cheese CEQA."

Now, after years of nibbling at it, Gov. Gavin Newsom and the Legislature are going in with the knives.

Two proposals have advanced rapidly through the Legislature: one to wipe away the law for most urban housing developments, the other to weaken the rules for most everything else. Legal experts say the efforts would be the most profound changes to CEQA in generations. Newsom not only endorsed the bills last month, but also put them on a fast track to approval by proposing their passage as part of

the state budget, which bypasses normal committee hearings and means they could become law within weeks.

"This is the biggest opportunity to do something big and bold, and the only impediment is us," Newsom said when announcing his support for the legislation.

Nearly the entire 55-year history of the California Environmental Quality Act has

[See Overhaul, A7]

## A wide field for state's next top leader

Democrats hear from gubernatorial hopefuls at annual convention in Anaheim. Notably absent: Kamala Harris.

BY LAURA J. NELSON, SEEMA MEHTA AND HANNAH FRY

California's most loyal Democrats got a good look this weekend at the wide field of gubernatorial candidates jockeying to replace Gov. Gavin Newsom at the state Democratic Party's annual convention in Anaheim, with a few chiding former vice president and potential rival Kamala Harris.

The Democrats running for governor in 2026 hurried among caucus meetings, floor speeches and after-parties, telling their personal stories and talking up their bona fides for tackling some of California's most entrenched problems, including housing affordability and the rising cost of living.

All the hand-shaking and selfies were done in the absence of Harris, who would be the most prominent candidate in the race, and who has not said whether she'll run for governor in 2026 or seek the White House again in 2028.

The most visible candidates at the convention were former state Senate President Pro Tem Toni Atkins, former U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Xavier Becerra, businessman Stephen J. Cloobek, Lt. Gov. Eleni Kounalakis and former state Controller

[See Democrats, A6]

### Fighting (and four-letter) words

Democrats are done with decorum, writes Mark Z. Barabak. NATION, A5

### A vow to stick to party values

Help the vulnerable, speakers urge, including the working class. A6

### Mexico holds a historic vote

Nation is the first in the world to have its citizens cast ballots to elect thousands of judges. WORLD, A4

### Creatives try to manage AI fears

Big Tech and Hollywood are at an AI crossroads, but a few brave souls are diving in. BUSINESS, A9

### Trans athlete wins at finals

## Sound it out, California: Phonics is back in class

Teachers report success with the skills-based approach, which may soon become law

BY JENNY GOLD AND KATE SEQUEIRA

To look inside Julie Celestial's kindergarten classroom in Long Beach is to peer into the future of reading in California.

During a recent lesson, 25



These phonics-based lessons are on the fast track to become law in California under a sweeping bill moving through the Legislature that will mandate how schools teach reading, a rare action in a state that generally emphasizes local school district control over dictat-





SUNDAY'S ATTACK on a peaceful rally in Boulder, Colo., in support of Israeli hostages left 12 people burned.

# Attack in Colorado leaves Jewish community terrified

Antisemitic violence in U.S. is on the rise. One expert sees war in Gaza and unregulated online environment as factors.

BY JENNY JARVIE  
AND NATHAN SOLIS

The morning after a man hurled Molotov cocktails at a crowd of Jewish Americans in Boulder, Colo., Rabbi Noah Farkas celebrated the first day of Shavuot in the

usual way: He read the Torah about the giving of the Ten Commandments to the Israelites at Mt. Sinai.

But Farkas, the president of the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles, said what was supposed to be a holiday celebrating the establishment of law and or-

der was marred by the week-end violence.

"The community is terrified," Farkas said outside Temple Ramat Zion in Northridge.

"It's remarkable to me that those who want to assault us are coming up with ever new and novel ways to

do harm to us and to try to kill us."

Twelve people between the ages of 52 and 88 were burned in the Colorado attack. A man — identified by law enforcement as Mohamed Sabry Soliman, 45, an Egyptian citizen who had

[See Antisemitism, A6]

## Meager snowpack adds to woes for Colorado River

BY IAN JAMES

Many of California's reservoirs have filled nearly to capacity this year with runoff from the ample snowpack in the Sierra Nevada. But the situation is very different along the Colorado River, another vital water source for Southern California, where a very dry spring has shrunk the amount of runoff streaming into reservoirs.

The latest forecast from the federal Colorado Basin

River Forecast Center shows that the river's flows will be about 46% of average over the next three months.

"We are noticing that runoff is low. There is no doubt about it," said Luke Gingerich, a farmer who grows peaches near the river in Palisade, Colo.

The snowpack in the upper Colorado River Basin reached 89% of the median level April 1, but the outlook has worsened over the last two months because of per-

[See River, A8]

### The upper Colorado River Basin has seen below-average snowpack

Snow water equivalent, in inches

## Justices turn away challenge to AR-15 bans

The 2nd Amendment case over assault weapons in California and 9 other states is rejected in close vote.

BY DAVID G. SAVAGE

WASHINGTON — A closely divided Supreme Court refused Monday to hear a 2nd Amendment challenge to the bans on semiautomatic rifles in Maryland, California and eight other blue states.

Gun rights advocates say these AR-15s are owned by millions of Americans, and they argue the 2nd Amendment protects weapons that are "in common use by law-abiding citizens."

But they fell one vote short of winning a hearing on the question before the Supreme Court.

Three conservatives — Justices Clarence Thomas, Samuel A. Alito Jr. and Neil M. Gorsuch — voted to hear the 2nd Amendment challenge.

But Justice Brett M. Kavanaugh refused for now to cast the key fourth vote. He called the lower-court ruling upholding Maryland's ban "questionable" but agreed with the majority in turning down the appeal for now.

"In my view, this court should and presumably will address the AR-15 issue soon, in the next Term or two," Kavanaugh wrote in a statement.

The closely watched appeal had been pending since December, and the outcome

suggests that the majority, including Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr., is not ready to strike down state laws that restrict semiautomatic guns.

Monday's no-comment order lets stand laws in Maryland and Rhode Island that forbid the sale or possession of "assault weapons" and large-capacity magazines.

California adopted the nation's first ban on assault weapons in 1989. Since then, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York and Washington have enacted similar laws, all of

[See Court, A6]

## Path to undoing deputy's felony verdict

How L.A.'s new top federal prosecutor set in motion a dismissal in Trevor Kirk case.

BY BRITTNY MEJIA  
AND JAMES QUEALLY

It took a federal jury an hour to convict a Los Angeles County sheriff's deputy of using excessive force after he assaulted and pepper-sprayed a woman outside a supermarket in Lancaster in 2023.

The prosecutors made their case in a three-day trial in February, ultimately persuading jurors to find Trevor Kirk guilty of a felony count of deprivation of rights under color of law. Kirk faced up to 10 years in prison.

On Monday, U.S. District Judge Stephen V. Wilson sentenced Kirk to four months in prison, after last week granting the government's request to dismiss the felony charge. With that dismissal, Kirk faced up to a year in prison.

Ahead of sentencing, the government had requested probation that included three months of home detention and 200 hours of community service. The defense team asked for a term of two months of home confinement and 300 hours of community service.

"In my view, the jury verdict was fully supported and the case was not unfairly argued, as the government at some early point argued," Wilson said after handing down his sentence. "The job of a police officer is a very difficult one ... but with those



BARRY BLUMENTHAL, 60, rides the pool bowl at Encinitas Skate Park.

### COLUMN ONE

## How 'Deathracers' stay young

SoCal skateboarders in their 50s and 60s say the adrenaline rush is their key to longevity

By Deborah Vankin

had Rivera gingerly makes his way to the edge of what looks

Dozens of other skateboarders — mostly men in their 50s and 60s decked



# A modern twist on 'Hamlet' takes stage

['Hamlet,' from E1]  
from classical to 21st century vernacular.

To be in this position at all — with his face on billboards, bus benches and streetlight banners across the city — is a “miracle,” Ball says. He was a relative unknown before scoring a starring role on the zeitgeisty medical drama “The Pitt,” which premiered in January and averaged more than 10 million viewers per episode, becoming one of Max’s top five original series premieres of all time.

Prior to that his only screen experience was a single episode of “Law & Order.” He had, however, spent a decade “grinding,” he says, “auditioning for film and TV, getting close but never happening.” He also spent four years traveling for regional theater, performing in shows including “Romeo & Juliet,” “Cat on a Hot Tin Roof” and “The Lover” in places like Washington, D.C., St. Louis, Boston and San Diego.

“I had settled upon the fact that that was going to be it for me. And I was happy with that,” Ball says. “And the dream of Hollywood was something that I had let go of, and I made peace with the fact that that wasn’t going to be my life.”

Then all of a sudden “The

‘My title is “prince,” right? And what’s the American equivalent of that? It’s celebrity. The Elsinore of America is Hollywood.’

— PATRICK BALL,  
“Hamlet” actor

Pitt” happened — and it felt like kismet. The North Carolina native’s mother is an emergency room nurse and his father is a paramedic. The stories told on the Noah Wyle-led drama resonated with him. His parents read through the pilot episode and said, “This checks out. This is real medicine,” Ball says, recalling how excited they were for him. To be able to tell stories that are meaningful to the community he grew up in, he says, feels like a blessing.

So does working with seasoned pros like O’Hara and Torres. O’Hara, who is also an established playwright, received a Tony nomination in 2020 for directing Jeremy O. Harris’ critically acclaimed “Slave Play,” which set a box-office record during its West Coast premiere at the Taper, grossing \$14 million in five weeks. Ball says that after seeing the show in New York, he spent the next four hours straight discussing it with the friend he went with.

O’Hara is obsessed with true-crime shows like “48 Hours,” in which culprits stick to their stories of innocence even when faced with video replays of their guilt, so he built the second act of his production in a moody, film-noir, flashback style, with a detective questioning characters after the play’s end-of-show massacre. Think David Lynch meets Alfred Hitchcock with a Salvador Dali-painted set.

“I think that the audience



JASON ARMOND Los Angeles Times

“I WAS so seduced by the idea that we get to see a Gertrude that we’ve never seen before,” says Gina Torres of a new “Hamlet” adaptation.

watching will go: ‘Wait a second, really, you put poison in his ear? Who puts poison in an ear?’” O’Hara says during an interview after rehearsal, while Ball and Torres sit laughing beside him. “‘And where are you guys getting all this poison?’ Poison in the glass, poison on the sword. This is something I didn’t make up, but somehow Claudius has a stash of poison.”

And what about that ghost?

Shakespeare’s Hamlet sees a ghost who tells him that his uncle Claudius murdered his father; O’Hara’s Hamlet may or may not have seen a ghost. He might just be a crazy person pretending to act extra crazy to get away with murder. In the highly stylized universe of

Hollywood noir, glamour and mental illness walk hand-in-hand; entitlement and privilege run amok.

Shakespeare rarely writes about common people, O’Hara notes. “Which goes back to the L.A.-ness of it all,” Ball chimes in. “My title is ‘prince,’ right? And what’s the American equivalent of that? It’s celebrity. The Elsinore of America is Hollywood. So to be able to tell this story, in that way, in this town, is a very cool opportunity.”

To Ball’s surprise, O’Hara hadn’t seen “The Pitt” when he decided to cast Ball as Hamlet. O’Hara, rather, reacted to the strength of Ball’s audition, which Ball self-taped on his phone in a frenetic style that Ball later felt was “insane.”

“You have to have confidence, you have to have the audacity to believe that you are going to do Hamlet — and that you can do Hamlet,” O’Hara says. “Because if I had to deal with someone who I had to pump up, or I had to make him believe that he can do it, it would be a whole different process.”

O’Hara knew one thing for sure: He wanted Torres to play Hamlet’s mother, Gertrude. He loved her in “The Matrix” sequels and also as the formidable lawyer Jessica Pearson on “Suits.” He was so certain that he didn’t even ask her to audition. Torres, however, had reservations.

“My first thought was, ‘I don’t know if my perimenopausal brain can do this,’” she says, laughing.

But then she read O’Hara’s script and she was sold. “I was so seduced by the idea that we get to see a Gertrude that we’ve never seen before.”

Torres’ screen resume is miles long but her stage credits, not so much. Which is funny, she says, because as a New York native, her only goal was to be a Broadway star. But she got cast in a recurring role on a soap opera, and then a pilot and away she went.

“Talk to any New York actor, and they’re like, ‘I’m just doing enough TV so that I can go back home and do theater.’ I hear it all the time. And then eight years go by,” she says.

There is an electric moment between the time a stage manager calls “places”

and the curtain rises, Torres says. That’s the feeling actors live for.

“We just fly,” she says. “And we’re chasing that sense of flight and connecting on stage, and if something goes wrong, we’re using it. We’re not starting over, we’re not gonna stop. There’s no safety net.”

That feeling is something O’Hara sought to harness with his adaptation. He doesn’t ask for more than one run-through a day. He wants to keep things fresh, with the possibility of freedom and breakthroughs. The cast, he says, must have room to find the play.

“I don’t want it to be drilled in,” he says. “I want there to be a little bit of titillating and vibration going on.”



## CALIFORNIA

MONDAY, JUNE 2, 2025 :: LATIMES.COM/CALIFORNIA



Photographs by TOMAS OVALLE For The Times

AT THE CIF State Track and Field Championships, transgender athlete AB Hernandez receives her second place medal in the long jump.

## Transgender track athlete wins

AB Hernandez prevails at state championships despite Trump's effort to shut her out

By KEVIN RECTOR

CLOVIS, Calif. — Overcoming intense pressure to quit from President Trump, dozens of local protesters and other prominent critics of transgender athletes in girls' sports, 16-year-old AB Hernandez bounded past many of her peers to win multiple gold medals at California's high school track and field championships Saturday.

The transgender junior from Jurupa Valley High School — who competed despite a directive from Trump that she be barred from doing so — won state titles in the girls' triple jump and the girls' high jump and took second place in the girls' long jump.

Hernandez's success at the 2025 CIF State Track



PROTESTERS gathered outside the stadium where the championships were held. California Interscholastic Federation officials banned protest signs inside.

and Field Championships in Clovis came amid high heat — with temperatures above 100 degrees for much of the day — and under an intense spotlight.

Earlier in the week, Trump had said on social media that he was “ordering local authorities, if necessary, to not allow” Hernandez to compete, wrongly alleging she had won “everything” in a prior meet and calling her “practically unbeatable.” Protesters gathered outside the meet Friday and Saturday to denounce her inclusion and the LGBTQ+ friendly state laws allowing it.

Despite all that, Hernandez appeared calm and focused as she competed. When her name was announced for the long jump, she waved to the crowd. When she was announced [See Athlete, B5]

## Abuse claims won't lead to charges

A former probation official was named in more than 30 lawsuits alleging sexual assault.

By REBECCA ELLIS

Many eyes were on Los Angeles County on April 7 as a claims board approved a long haggled-over \$4-billion settlement, following a flood of lawsuits from victims who said they were sexually abused as children in county-run lock-ups and foster homes.

That same day, the L.A. County district attorney's office quietly finalized another decision: The man who had emerged in the lawsuits as the most prolific abuser would not face criminal charges.

Thomas Jackson, 58, a former probation official who was accused by more than two dozen women of sexually abusing them when they were minors, would not be prosecuted because the alleged incidents happened too long ago, the April 7 declination memo said.

The district attorney's office also declined to prosecute Altovise Abner, 46, a probation supervisor who was investigated for allegedly engaging in sex with a minor at a camp in 2006, according to another April 7 memo.

Since state legislators gave victims of childhood sexual abuse a new window to sue in 2020, L.A. County has been flooded by claims from nearly 7,000 plaintiffs who said they were abused by caretakers, probation staff or foster parents while they were children in county custody.

County officials referred only two of the cases — those against Abner and Jackson — to the district attorney's office for investigation in December 2023. The decisions not to charge them meant that no new criminal prosecutions would result from the allegations that make up the largest sex abuse settlement in U.S. history.

The charges that prosecutors considered against Jackson included statutory rape, oral sex with a minor and forced penetration with a foreign object, according to the declination memo by Deputy Dist. Atty. Melanie Buccat.

The potential charges for Abner, which included statutory rape, could not be proved beyond a reasonable doubt and were also outside the statute of limitations, according to Buccat's declination memo.

In a statement, a spokesperson for the district attorney's office called the alleged sexual assaults at probation [See Abuse, B5]

## Voices

GEORGE SKELTON  
COLUMNIST  
CAPITOL JOURNAL

## Newsom insults state voters by not funding Prop. 36

SACRAMENTO

This just seems wrong: Californians overwhelmingly approved an anti-crime ballot November. But our governor

## In L.A. County, how much power should first elected CEO have?

By REBECCA ELLIS

Soon, the most powerful Los Angeles County politician won't be the mayor of L.A. It won't be a county supervisor.

It will be the elected chief executive.

“It's probably going to be the second most powerful position in the state next to the governor,” said former

West Covina Mayor Brian Calderón Tabatabai, one of 13 people now tasked with deciding just how much power should come with the post.

Last week, the final five members were named to the county's governance reform task force. The former politicians, union leaders, advocates and business owners will make recommendations on how to move forward with

Measure G, the sprawling ballot measure approved by voters in November to overhaul L.A. County government.

Measure G was massive in scope but scant on details. That means members of the task force — five of whom were picked directly by supervisors — must figure out the contours of a new county ethics commission by 2026. [See Chief, B4]





SEN. ALEX PADILLA is removed from Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem's news conference in L.A. LUKE JOHNSON Los Angeles Times

## White House: L.A. raids are sign of what's to come in U.S.

A top Trump aide says operations in 'sanctuary' cities will rise

BY ANDREA CASTILLO

WASHINGTON — When Donald Trump promised on the campaign trail to unleash the largest deportation campaign in U.S. history, he said his second administration would start by going after people with criminal records.

But now, disappointed with the pace of arrests, the

Trump administration is casting a wider net by targeting anyone deportable.

Raids in California have taken place at courthouses, during scheduled check-ins with immigration authorities, at clothing factories, Home Depots, car washes, farms and outside churches. But officials say the state is hardly being singled out. Raids are coming for other "sanctuary" jurisdictions

too, said Tom Homan, President Trump's chief advisor on border policy.

"This operation is not going to end," Homan told The Times.

Across the country, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement is stepping up new strategies and tearing down precedent to meet the White House's demands. Homan acknowledged that the pace of deportations had

not met expectations and that although the administration still prioritizes removing those who threaten public safety and national security, anyone in the country illegally is fair game.

"I'm not happy with the numbers," he said. "We need to find these people."

Arrests are being made in places previously considered off limits, and the ad-

[See Homan, A9]

## Tensions boil over as senator is tackled, ICE arrests pick up

Federal immigration sweeps spread fear and uncertainty across the region and force workers into hiding.

BY SUMMER LIN, CHRISTOPHER BUCHANAN, RACHEL URANGA, HANNAH FRY AND JAMES QUEALLY

### Senator was forced to his knees

Democrats decry his detainment as "un-American." NATION, A8

### Defense secretary on military in L.A.

He wouldn't say whether he'd obey a ruling against deployment. NATION, A10

### Nine car washes are raided

A look at these and other worksites targeted by ICE. BUSINESS, A12

to say how many were arrested in recent days. But Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem said at a news conference Thursday that the department is not limiting its arrests to only those with criminal records. In fact, two-thirds of those taken into custody have no criminal records, according to the White House.

About five minutes into the Noem news conference at the Wilshire Federal [See Raids, A8]

## Judge appears to question federal call-up of Guard

California officials say Trump exceeded his authority in sending state's troops without consent of governor.

BY MICHAEL WILNER AND QUEENIE WONG

A federal judge in San Francisco expressed skepticism at a hearing Thursday that President Trump had the authority to federalize the National Guard, questioning whether he had followed the law before ordering an extraordinary deployment to Los Angeles over the weekend.

U.S. District Judge Charles Breyer, presiding over the case, pushed back against the Justice Department's central argument: that courts had no say in the matter.

"We're talking about the president ... exercising his authority, and, of course, the president is limited in his au-

thority," Breyer said. "That's the difference between the president and King George."

"We live in response to a monarchy," the judge continued, adding, "Line drawing is important, because it establishes a system of process."

In the lengthy hearing, Breyer directed most of his questioning to the Trump administration, which has cited Title 10 of the U.S. Code to justify the takeover of the National Guard. But that provision, the judge noted, requires that orders from the president "shall be issued through the governors of the States."

"I'm trying to figure out how something is 'through' somebody, if in fact you didn't send it to him," Breyer asked. "As long as he gets a copy of it at some point, it's going through?"

The judge was less willing, however, to engage in the legality of Trump's deployment of U.S. Marines to Los Angeles. Attorneys for California noted that 140 [See Judge, A7]

## Rights groups fight for their own lives

They face death threats, federal inquiries as they aid more immigrants

BY RACHEL URANGA

"No firmes nada," a union organizer shouted into a bullhorn as he stood atop the flatbed of a truck outside Ambiance Apparel, doling out battlefield legal advice not to sign anything. "You have a right to a lawyer. You are not alone."

Advocates and lawyers had arrived at the downtown store minutes after tips began to pop off at the hotline set up by the Los Angeles Rapid Response Network, a coalition of 300 volunteers and 23 labor unions and immigrant rights and social justice groups that was organized last year to respond to enforcement.

They joined protesters and tearful family members jostling around a plate glass window to catch glimpses of

[See Advocates, A10]



UNION leader David Huerta, shown after his release, was arrested at a protest. BRITTNY MEJIA Los Angeles Times

California launches probe of State Farm

Trump signs law to kill state auto emission rules



## CALIFORNIA

FRIDAY, JUNE 13, 2025 :: LATIMES.COM/CALIFORNIA



LUKE JOHNSON Los Angeles Times

HOMELAND SECURITY Secretary Kristi Noem has lunch with National Guard troops in Westwood.

Voices STEVE LOPEZ COLUMNIST

# Why federal invasion of L.A. feels so personal

President Trump has sent an army to the city, but isn't that really about putting on a show, creating a crisis where there was none?

I was driving while listening to the news Sunday when I heard House Speaker Mike Johnson justify President Trump's move to send National Guard troops to Los Angeles.

"We have to maintain the rule of law," Johnson said.

I almost swerved off the road. Maintain the rule of law? Trump pardoned the hooligans who ransacked the Capitol because he lost the 2020 presidential election. They clashed with police, destroyed property and threatened the lives of public officials, and to Trump, they're heroes.

Maintain the rule of law?

Trump is a 34-count felon who has defied judicial rulings, ignored laws that don't serve his interests, and turned his current presidency into an unprecedented adventure in self-dealing and graft.

And then he sent an invading army to Los Angeles, creating a crisis where there was none. Arresting undocumented immigrants with criminal records is one thing, but is that what this was about? Or was it about putting on a show, occupying commercial and residential neighborhoods, raiding car washes and fashion warehouses, and arresting people who were looking for — or on their way to — work?

Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth warned that U.S. Marines were on high alert and ready to roll, and I wondered: What next, the Air Force?

Not yet, but Sen. Alex Padilla (D-Calif.) was tackled and hauled out of a Homeland Security news conference in Los Angeles on Thursday for trying to ask a question, so anything's possible going forward.

I'm not going to defend the vandalism and violence that followed ICE arrests in Los Angeles, though it's worth noting that most protests were peaceful.

But I am going to defend Los Angeles and the way things work here.

[See Lopez, B5]

## State's national monuments on Trump hit list?

Justice Department says president can undo designations by his predecessors.

BY LILA SEIDMAN

President Trump has the authority to abolish national monuments set aside by past presidents to protect areas of historic and scientific interest, the Justice Department said in an opinion this week, potentially laying the groundwork to dismantle California's two newest monuments — Chuckwalla and Satttila Highlands.

The May 27 legal opinion released Tuesday overturns a more than 80-year-old Justice Department determination that presidents can't revoke national monuments created by their predecessors under the Antiquities Act.

The finding follows an Interior Department effort to explore altering monuments as part of a push to expand U.S. energy production, a move that set off alarm bells among conservationists that certain public lands could be on the chopping block.

Then-President Biden signed proclamations designating Chuckwalla and Satttila Highlands national monuments in California's desert and far north shortly before leaving office early

this year. The Justice Department, in its new opinion, said it was asked to look into whether the Antiquities Act — the 1906 law permitting presidents to create monuments — can be used to revoke them.

The opinion, titled "Revocation of Prior Monument Designations," says it can.

In the 50-page document, Deputy Assistant Atty. Gen. Lanora Pettit wrote that presidents can find "that the 'landmarks,' 'structures,' or 'objects' identified in the prior declaration either never were or no longer are deserving of the Act's protections; and such an alteration can have the effect of eliminating entirely the reservation of the parcel of land previously associated with a national monument."

Since its passage, the Antiquities Act has been used by 18 presidents — split evenly between Republicans and Democrats — to designate monuments. California is home to 21 national monuments, more than any other state.

During a Wednesday hearing in Washington, Sen. Alex Padilla (D-Calif.) questioned Interior Secretary Doug Burgum about the opinion, which he called "extremely dangerous."

He specifically asked what the secretary's intentions were with regard to the Golden State's newest monuments, which he de-

[See Monuments, B2]

## Judge resentences celebrity lawyer to 11-year term for fraud

Michael Avenatti stole millions from clients including Stormy Daniels.

BY BRITNEY MEJIA

Michael Avenatti, the once-swaggering celebrity lawyer who represented adult film star Stormy Daniels in her court battles against President Trump, was resentenced Thursday to 11 years in prison for dodging taxes and stealing millions of dollars from clients.

U.S. District Judge James V. Selna resentenced Avenatti to 135 months — slightly more than 11 years — but credited him 40 months for the time he has served in prison for stealing nearly \$300,000 from Daniels' advance on a book contract. That brought his sentence to nearly eight years.

"Avenatti has done many noble and good things in his life, some reflected in this case, but he's also done great evil for which he must an-

abandonment of some of the most basic principles of fairness."

Avenatti pleaded guilty in June 2022 to four counts of wire fraud for stealing money from clients and one count of obstructing collection of payroll taxes from his Seattle coffee business, which is now defunct.

One of the clients he stole from, Geoffrey Ernest Johnson, was a mentally ill paraplegic man on disability. Selna on Thursday ordered Avenatti to pay about \$9 million in restitution to his victims — at least 10, including the Internal Revenue Service and the State Bar of California.

Avenatti, who appeared in court in Santa Ana dressed in a gray sweatshirt and sweatpants, was sentenced to 14 years in prison in 2022. After he appealed the sentence, the U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals ordered a new hearing. The 9th Circuit found that the trial judge based his decision on calculations of a greater loss than victims actually suffered and gave Avenatti too

Voices ANITA CHABRIA COLUMNIST

## Newsom's speech on democracy could turn the tables on president

Frame it as a call to action or a presidential campaign announcement, Gov. Gavin Newsom's address to America on Tuesday has tapped into our zeitgeist (German words feel oddly appropriate at the moment) in a way few others have.

"Democracy is under assault right before our eyes," Newsom said during a live broadcast with a California flag and the U.S. flag in the background. "The moment we've feared has arrived."

What moment exactly is he referring to?

President Trump has put Marines and National Guardsmen on the streets of Los Angeles, and granted himself the power to put them anywhere. Wednesday, a top military leader said those forces could "detain" protesters, but not outright arrest them, though — despite what you see

[See Chabria, B4]



KELVIN KUO Los Angeles Times

MILITARY tanks sit on a rail line Thursday at the Port of Los Angeles.





MEMBERS of the marching band tour the performing arts center's theater at the new Compton High School. Photographs by MYUNG J. CHUN Los Angeles Times

## Straight A's outta Compton: Campus all in on innovation

Students from among the poorest families in California are about to get the newest, most up-to-date public high school in the state as the rebuilt Compton High prepares to open.

The brand-new \$225-million, 31-acre campus is strikingly innovative — even experimental in some ways: The library has no books; it's all digital. Classrooms feature an expanse of windows and sliding glass doors. Security measures are high-tech and largely invisible.

Traditional components of a high school are meant to be top-in-class. Each station in the weight room is outfitted with an iPad so athletes can design and monitor workout plans. Athletic facilities include two baseball fields, a football stadium, a soccer field, multiple basketball and tennis courts, a swimming pool and a large gymnasium.

And for musicians, dancers and drama kids, the performing arts center got a \$10-million donation from Compton native Andre "Dr. Dre" Young — commemorated with a massive mural of his face on the building.

With a big boost from Dr. Dre, tech-laden high school allows students to express themselves

By Howard Blume



ANDRE YOUNG, a.k.a. Dr. Dre, second from right, greets students during the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

The new campus was showcased to the public Thursday and, in the fall, will welcome students — who have been roughing it for six years in temporary quarters at a nearby, worn, surplus campus that was formerly a middle school.

The campus was paid for with school-construction bonds approved by voters who live within the boundaries of Compton Unified.

The new campus replaces a creaky, 1930s-era school with a dignified facade and bell tower. But band director Anthony Ranser remembers that every item of value inside had to be shifted when it rained because of leaks.

[See Compton, A12]

## U.S. attack on Harvard sparks fear at schools

Foreign students in California wonder if Trump administration will also seek to block them from enrolling.

By MICHAEL WILNER AND JAWEED KALEEM

WASHINGTON — A multifront assault by the Trump administration against the nation's oldest university intensified on Friday when Harvard sued to block the government from barring international student enrollment, and a judge issued an immediate order to halt the ban.

The rapid-fire legal action is the latest in Trump administration attacks against the university as it claims Harvard failed to adhere to its demands to combat antisemitism.

But the whiplash felt by

Harvard international students is reverberating far beyond Cambridge, Mass., as university leaders and foreign students across the United States and California watch with growing alarm over how federal actions will affect the nation's 1.1-million foreign student population — 6% of American higher education enrollment.

Campuses have been on alert since last month, when the Homeland Security and State departments canceled thousands of enrollment certifications and visas at dozens of U.S. colleges, including UCLA, for individuals who often had minor infractions such as traffic tickets. The government, seeing losses in court, later reversed those cancellations and was further blocked from undertaking them when an Oakland-based federal judge issued an injunction Thursday.

"The current mindset of [See Education, A7]

## Apple is back in Trump's crosshairs

The president threatens a tariff if the company doesn't manufacture iPhones in the United States.

By QUEENIE WONG

Apple Chief Executive Tim Cook can't seem to catch a break.

Last month, Apple appeared to secure a major win when the Trump administration agreed to remove tariffs on certain electronics imported from China following concerns that the prices of smartphones and computers could rise.

But Trump threw Apple another curveball this week when he expressed frustration about the tech giant producing the iPhone in other parts of Asia.

"I have long ago informed Tim Cook of Apple that I expect their iPhone's that will be sold in the United States of America will be manufactured and built in the United States, not India, or anyplace else. If that is not the case, a Tariff of at least 25% must be paid by Apple to the U.S.," Trump said in a post Friday on the social network Truth Social.

Apple didn't respond to a request for comment about [See Apple, A10]

## Lawsuits could fill gap in the enforcement of civil rights

After cuts to Justice Department, lawyers say suing is one of the few ways left to fight discrimination.

By CERYL DAVIES

Keith Puckett says he was heading to the gym to help prepare his son for basketball tryouts at El Segundo High School when a police officer passing in the opposite direction flipped a U-turn and stopped him.

cording to a civil rights complaint he filed last August in L.A. County Superior Court that described the March 2021 encounter.

The officer, according to the complaint, claimed the truck's rear license plate light was out. Puckett maintains he made a point of checking that all the lights worked before hitting the road. A photo included in court filings, which he said was taken the day of the stop, showed the rear of the vehicle with the license plate and a frame that said, "I'd rather be fishing" clearly illuminated.

The real reason he was

Puckett, who is Black, alleges he was racially profiled in El Segundo.

Puckett said in court filings that he contacted the police department and local officials to "see if an agreement could be reached about policy changes to improve the treatment of Black people in El Segundo," but disagreement led to the ongoing lawsuit.

The city has denied wrongdoing in court filings and disputed Puckett's claims.

"The City of El Segundo is committed to treating everybody fairly, no matter their race, national origin,



AN INVESTIGATOR looks at debris from a Cessna Citation crash in San Diego. KELVIN KUO Los Angeles Times

## Weather system failure preceded Cessna crash, officials say



## CALIFORNIA

SATURDAY, MAY 24, 2025 :: LATIMES.COM/CALIFORNIA

## Edison to pay U.S. in record Bobcat fire deal

The \$82.5-million settlement comes as utility seeks to raise customer rates by 10%.

BY BRITTNY MEJIA

Southern California Edison has agreed to pay \$82.5 million to cover costs and damages from the 2020 Bobcat fire in what federal officials are calling a record settlement for one of the largest blazes in Los Angeles County.

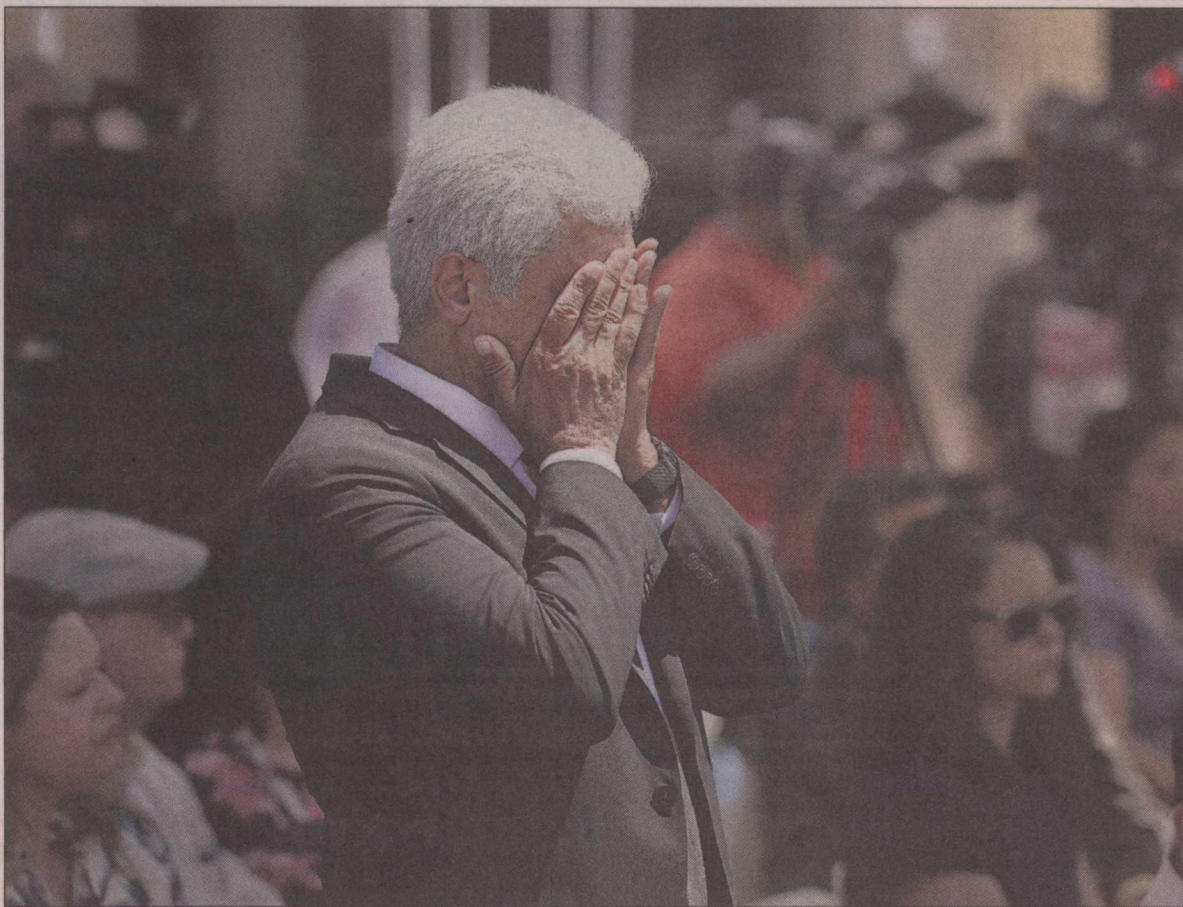
Federal officials allege that the Bobcat fire, which burned more than 114,000 acres in 2020, ignited when trees that were not properly maintained by Southern California Edison and its tree maintenance contractor came into contact with power lines.

Edison agreed to pay the settlement within 60 days of the effective date of the agreement, which was May 14, without admitting wrongdoing or fault.

"Our hearts are with the people who were affected by the Bobcat fire," said Jeff Monford, a spokesman for Edison. "We are pleased to have resolved this matter and will continue to advance wildfire mitigation measures to further enhance public safety and resiliency."

The U.S. attorney's office in Los Angeles called it "the largest-ever wildfire cost recovery settlement" by the government in the Central District of California.

"This record settlement against Southern California Edison provides meaningful compensation to taxpayers for the extensive costs of fighting the Bobcat fire and for the widespread damage to public lands," U.S. Atty. Bill Essayli said at a news release. "My office will continue to aggressively pursue recovery for suppression costs [See Bobcat, B4]



Photographs by ALLEN J. SCHABEN Los Angeles Times

AMERICAN Reproductive Centers founder Dr. Maher Abdallah wipes his eyes at a news conference.

## Clinic director vows to rebuild after bombing

Dr. Maher Abdallah credits a series of miracles for limiting the scope of devastation from last Saturday's attack. 'Life is preserved,' he says.

BY REBECCA PLEVIN

PALM SPRINGS — Less than a week after a targeted bomb explosion nearly destroyed his fertility clinic, Dr. Maher Abdallah stood below the blazing desert sun in front of a liquor store, its windows blown out by the powerful blast. Behind him was what remained of American Reproductive Centers.

The clinic — the Coachella Valley's only full-service fertility center and IVF lab, according to its website — had been relegated to a crime scene. All four buildings will need to be demol-



PARTS of the clinic were destroyed, and the whole complex will need to be demolished and replaced.

ished and replaced, a process that could take up to two years, he said. Still, he dismissed the destruction as "material loss."

In what Abdallah described as a series of miracles, nobody was in the clinic last Saturday morning and its in vitro fertilization lab remained intact despite the mighty force of the explosion. The attack knocked out the electricity that powered the facility's incubators and damaged the backup generator, but emergency responders rushed in to address the outage and ensure that the thousands of frozen eggs, sperm and embryos [See Clinic, B5]

## Pacific Coast Highway reopens to traffic

The 11-mile stretch, closed after fire, offers more access to Pacific Palisades and Malibu.

BY KAREN GARCIA AND HANNAH FRY

In a major post-fire milestone Friday, Pacific Coast Highway reopened to traffic for the first time since the Palisades fire incinerated homes and businesses along the oceanfront in January.

The reopening of an 11-mile stretch of PCH offers greater access to Malibu and Pacific Palisades ahead of summer and may ease commutes for those trying to get to Los Angeles from Ventura County and the west Valley. It also marks a key step forward in recovery efforts, officials said.

"There's more work to do, and we'll continue expediting all aspects of the recovery effort until every family is back home," Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass wrote in a post on X.

By 8 a.m. Friday it was off to the races for motorists who were once again able to drive the winding oceanfront highway as two lanes of traffic were opened in both directions. But the commute wasn't all that speedy for most — and it likely won't be for a while, officials warn.

Road crews are still working in the area, so the speed limit has been reduced to 25 mph. Traffic signals at Topanga Canyon Boulevard, Big Rock Drive, La Costa Beach Club and Carbon Canyon Road are set for flashing red, meaning drivers will have to stop.

While much of the highway's traffic was steady for the morning commute, traffic lights and stop signs created bottlenecks in some areas. Debris removal crews and construction workers labored alongside the highway, cleaning and completing other roadwork as cars streamed by.

Marco Palma, 50, arrived at Surfrider Beach at 7:30 a.m. with his longboard ready to take on the waves. He spent an hour in the car driving from East Los Angeles for the chance to finally reach the sand, but he didn't mind the reduced speed limit.

"It's a very small price to pay, the delay of 10 or 15 minutes, just to get access to this again," Palma said. "I was just happy to be back in the water floating around, feeling the breeze."

The serenity of the moment was interrupted by a lingering reminder of the Palisades fire's devastation — ash and bits of burnt wood and debris are still lingering in the water, he said.

Cars and construction vehicles were driving slowly

## City Council approves budget plan reducing LAPD hires

BY DAVID ZAHNISER AND REBECCA ELLIS

The Los Angeles City Council signed off on a \$14-billion spending plan for 2025-26 on Thursday, scaling back Mayor Karen

Bass' public safety initiatives as it attempted to spare 1,000 city workers from layoffs.

Faced with a nearly \$1-billion budget shortfall, the council voted 12 to 3 for a plan that would cut funding for recruitment at the Los

Angeles Police Department, leaving the agency with fewer officers than at any point since 1995.

The council provided enough money for the LAPD to hire 240 new officers over the coming year, down from the 480 proposed by Bass

last month. That reduction would leave the LAPD with about 8,400 officers in June 2026, down from about 8,700 this year and 10,000 in 2020.

The council also scaled back the number of new hires the mayor proposed for the Los Angeles Fire De-

partment in the wake of the wildfire that ravaged huge stretches of Pacific Palisades.

Bass' budget called for the hiring of 227 additional Fire Department employees. The council provided [See Budget, B3]

## CRIMES OF THE TIMES

## FBI agent said contact with Russians was all a ruse

Richard Miller claimed he tried to infiltrate Soviet intelligence and redeem his career.

counterespionage unit



# SPORTS

SATURDAY, MAY 24, 2025 :: LATIMES.COM/SPORTS



SHOHEI OHTANI, center, in an airport in South Korea in 2024, and teammates get more rest, even on off days, under their new plan.

AHN YOUNG-JOON Associated Press

NEW YORK — In the interest of doing things differently last October, the Dodgers made a subtle, but profound, change in their travel plans.

In previous postseasons — many of which ended with disappointing early eliminations — the Dodgers would use one wide-body plane to shuttle players, coaches, executives, staff, broadcasters and other members of their bloated playoff traveling party from city to city.

Last year, they opted for a different flight pattern.

Players took one plane, as part of a larger effort to promote a sense of togetherness in pursuit of a World Series title.

Everyone else, meanwhile, flew on a second, separate chartered commercial jet.

"I think it's just [a way for us to make sure] more of the time we spend is together," first baseman Freddie Freeman said during last

## DEPARTURE FROM THE NORM

Dodgers are 'reimagining' their travel by using two planes on a full-time basis to help with camaraderie and convenience

By Jack Harris

year's postseason. "Making sure we stayed together as a group."

Given the results, the Dodgers decided to keep the change in place for this season.

What started as a one-month experiment then has become a permanent routine for the defending champions now.

This year, in a significant shift to the way they travel, the Dodgers are using two planes on a full-time basis for their regular-season road trips: One for players, just like they did last October; and another for everyone else, from manager Dave Roberts and the rest of his coaching staff to the dozens of other team personnel that make up each trip.

"It was driven by them," Roberts said of the players, noting their interest in continuing the two-plane itinerary this year. "And we facilitated it."

[See Dodgers, B11]

## A rare Game 1 loss for UCLA softball

Bruins hitters can't keep up with host Gamecocks in the best-of-three series.

SOUTH CAROLINA 9  
UCLA 2

By Alan Cole

COLUMBIA, S.C. — The streak is over, but not the season.

UCLA softball's run of six consecutive victories in super regional games dating to 2021 ended with a 9-2 loss to South Carolina in Game 1 of the Columbia Super Regional at Beckham Field.

"The opponent did a better job of executing the game plan today," UCLA coach Kelly Inouye-Perez said. "The best part about postseason is it's a best two out of three. We look forward to getting back out there tomorrow."

South Carolina (44-15) tagged UCLA (52-11) starting pitcher Kaitlyn Terry with five runs in the first two innings and added two apiece in the fifth and sixth off reliever Addison Fisher.

Catcher Lexi Winters opened the scoring by the thinnest of margins, hitting a two-run home run off the top of the wall.

After Brooke Blankenship's RBI single tacked on one more run in the first, South Carolina star slugger Arianna Rodi delivered a two-run single in the second inning to knock Terry from the circle. South Carolina scored seven of its nine runs in the game with two outs, following on a streak of 11 consecutive two-out runs to end last week's regional.

"Patience and short, compact swings," Inouye-Perez said.

[See UCLA, B11]

## Tiernan jumps at chance to prove opponents wrong

Angel City forward was passed over in free agency but uses slight to become stellar NWSL rookie

By Kevin Baxter

Welcome to the Riley Tiernan Revenge Tour.

Oh, sure, the Angel City forward is far too nice to call it that, but that's what her first NWSL season has become.

"Everybody loves an

match with Racing Louisville.

"A fair shot," said the 22-year-old. "All I wanted, literally, was just a chance to prove myself. Without the draft it was kind of like you get what you get and you've got to hope for the best."

"Once I got this invitation it was 'let's go big or go





Sunday

FRANCES HOWARD GOLDWYN  
HOLLYWOOD REGIONAL LIBRARY  
1623 INAR AVENUE  
HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA 90028

# Los Angeles Times

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SUNDAY, JUNE 8, 2025

latimes.com

JUN 09 2025

## Ruling: Colleges can pay athletes

A federal judge approves NCAA settlement that shreds the last vestiges of the amateur model.

By EDDIE PELLIS

A federal judge signed off on arguably the biggest change in the history of college sports Friday, clearing the way for schools to begin paying their athletes millions of dollars as soon as next month as the multi-billion-dollar industry shreds the last vestiges of the amateur model that defined it for more than a century.

Nearly five years after Arizona State swimmer Grant House sued the NCAA and its five biggest conferences to lift restrictions on revenue sharing, U.S. Judge Claudia Wilken approved the final proposal that had been hung up on roster limits, just one of many changes ahead amid concerns that thousands of walk-on athletes will lose their chance to play college sports.

The sweeping terms of the so-called House settlement include approval for each school to share up to \$20.5 million with athletes over the next year and \$2.7 billion that will be paid over the next decade to thousands of former players who were barred from that revenue. [See NCAA, A10]

## 'Pivotal moment' for Bruin athletes

Athletic director shares plans for UCLA, which is expected to follow judge's pay formula. SPORTS, D1



MYUNG J. CHUN Los Angeles Times

PEOPLE block a street and set a fire near a Home Depot during protests against ICE and immigration raids on Saturday in Paramount.

## ICE raids across L.A. spur protests

Trump officials vow to go on as local leaders, migrant advocates push back

By RACHEL URANGA, REBECCA ELLIS, CLARA HARTER, RUBEN VIVES, SEEMA MEHTA AND CORINNE PURTILL

Fallout from aggressive U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement sweeps in Los Angeles continued Saturday, with fierce pushback from protesters, open sparring between L.A. leadership and federal officials and the Trump administration vowing to send the National Guard to the city to assist with operations.

Border czar Tom Holman told Fox News the Guard would be deployed Saturday night to help with operations. It's unclear how many Guard members would arrive and exactly what their role would be.

It came after a day of clashes between federal agents and protesters at a Home Depot in Paramount that was broadcast nationwide through the day.



JASON ARMOND Los Angeles Times

POLICE clear the streets Friday and check on a man who fell as protesters gather in response to ICE raids in Los Angeles.

The raids sparked outrage from state and local leaders.

Gov. Gavin Newsom on Saturday condemned the ICE raids in Los Angeles and the response by the Trump administration, and said he has deployed additional CHP officers to L.A. highways to "keep the peace" but not aid the federal actions.

"The federal government is sowing chaos so they can have an excuse to escalate. That is not the way any civilized country behaves," Newsom said in a statement.

Newsom said the Trump administration is moving to take over the California National Guard and deploy 2,000 soldiers, which he said was "purposeful." [See Protests, A11]

## Mexico's lawsuit didn't succeed but forced U.S. to face gun traffic issue

By PATRICK J. McDONNELL AND KATE LINTHICUM

MEXICO CITY — More than a decade ago, Mexican authorities erected a billboard along the border in Ciudad Juárez, across the Rio Grande from El Paso.

"No More Weapons" was the stark message, written in English and crafted from 3 tons of firearms that had been seized and crushed.

It was a desperate entreaty to U.S. officials to

stanch the so-called Iron River, the southbound flow of arms that was fueling record levels of carnage in Mexico.

But the guns kept coming — and the bloodletting and mayhem grew.

Finally, with homicides soaring to record levels, exasperated authorities pivoted to a novel strategy: Mexico filed a \$10-billion suit in U.S. federal court seeking to have Smith & Wesson and other signature manufacturers held accountable for [See Mexico, A4]



BRYANT ANDERSON Associated Press

BOATS collide as a tsunami's waters sweep through Crescent City, Calif., in 2011.

## Swelling threat from quakes

## Venture capitalists ramping up investment in L.A. area

Diverse firms, not just AI, draw \$3.1 billion in first-quarter deals, up 15% from last year.

By QUEENIE WONG AND WENDY LEE

Early this year, private equity firm Blackstone bet big on the future of artificial intelligence by investing \$300 million in a Chatsworth company that's been around

Cynthia Erivo returns to R&B roots



ing outweigh the burdens?  
Will the average Southern Californian get anything out of the yearslong buildup and staging of the Games?  
And will basic services and infrastructure near Olympic venues get upgrades at the expense of  
[See Lopez, B6]

## Baldwin Park mourns officer

BY CHRISTOPHER BUCHANAN

Sirens blared along Ramona Boulevard in Baldwin Park as police officers from throughout the region gathered Friday to mourn one of their own.

In remembrance of Officer Samuel Riveros, who was killed in a shootout last weekend, hundreds of residents and officers surrounded an expansive arrangement of blue and white flowers fashioned into the shape of hearts and crosses at the Baldwin Park Police Department.

Family, friends and locals stood solemnly and at times silently wept as law enforcement officials spoke of Riveros' work and presence in the community.

Riveros, 35, served for nearly 10 years as a member of Baldwin Park's SWAT team and also worked as a training officer, according to Police Chief Robert Lopez.

He was a snowboarding enthusiast and often attended concerts, friends and colleagues recalled.

A photo of Riveros smiling in his police uniform was at the front of the stage, which was decorated in the colors of his favorite team, the Los Angeles Dodgers.

"Sam leaves behind a hole in our hearts that will

[See Vigil, B8]

**SANTA CRUZ** — The Santa Cruz Wharf, jutting half a mile into the Monterey Bay, offers a cheerful stroll past souvenir shops, fishing boat rentals advertised as "Husband Daycare," and children giggling at hordes of fat sea lions barking below.

But at the end of the city-owned wharf, hanging on a flimsy metal fence, are small warning signs. "KEEP OUT," reads one. "DANGER," says another.

The signs have been there for about six months—ever since a 180-foot section of the wooden pier collapsed into the ocean after being battered by towering waves



STEPHEN LAM San Francisco Chronicle  
**A SECTION** of the wharf that collapsed into the ocean is seen at a nearby beach in December.

during an atmospheric river storm that wreaked havoc along the Central Coast.

City officials hope the signs, fencing, orange safety barriers and exposed wooden decking at the end of the wharf will be gone by early next year. Construction is expected to begin this fall on a \$1-million partial repair of the structure, which draws more than 2 million visitors a year.

"It's shaken us up to see the damage to the end of the wharf," said Tony Elliot, the city's director of parks and recreation. "The wharf is 111 years old, and we want to make sure it's here for another 100-plus years."

On a sunny afternoon late last month, Nick James, a 26-year-old vacationer

[See Wharf, B6]

broke out, there were widespread reports of landlords illegally price gouging, even raising rent beyond 50%. But there's been debate over how widespread and long-term the fire effects would be, leading to different responses from different government bodies.

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors in February passed eviction protections for many tenants economically affected by the fires, but the Los Angeles City Council declined to take similar measures amid concerns they would hurt landlords.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency hasn't leased apartments for displaced residents as it has after similar disasters, saying data indicate there is

[See Rent, B8]

**Voices** ANITA CHABRIA COLUMNIST

## ICE arrests a union leader. What's coming

The move 'woke people up ... and people are ready to get to action,' a labor official says



GENARO MOLINA Los Angeles Times  
**IMMIGRANT** rights activists protest L.A. sweeps by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

**U**nions in California are different from those in other places.

More than any state in our troubled country, their ranks are filled with people of color and immigrants. While unions have always been tied closely with the struggles of civil rights, that has become even more pronounced in the years since George Floyd was killed by a police officer in Minneapolis.

In the subsequent national soul-searching, unions were forced to do a bit of their own. But where that conversation has largely broken down for general society under the pressure of President Trump's right-wing rage, it took hold inside of unions to a much greater degree — leading to more leadership from people of color, sometimes younger leadership and definitely an understanding from the rank and file that these are organizations that fight far beyond the workplace.

Which is why the arrest of David Huerta, president of SEIU-USWW and SEIU California, by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement on Friday is going to have a major impact on the coming months as deportations continue.

"They have woke us up," Tia Orr told me Saturday morning. She's the executive director of the 700,000-

[See Chabria, B10]



POINT CONCEPTION TO MEXICO  
Inner waters: Wind west increasing to 10-15 knots. Wind waves 2-3 feet. Swell northwest 2 feet at 6 seconds and south 2 feet at 14 seconds.  
Surf zone: The risk of strong rip currents is moderate at L.A. and Orange county beaches and low at all other area beaches.

County	Height	Period	Direction	Temp
Santa Barbara	1-2'	12 sec	SSW	62
Ventura	1-3'	12 sec	SSW	63
Los Angeles	2-4'	14 sec	S	63
Orange	2-4'	14 sec	S	63
San Diego	1-3'	14 sec	SSW	65

### Tides

L.A. Outer Harbor, in feet.

Today	9:18a	3.3 Hi	2:53a	0.0 Lo
Mon.	8:02p	5.7 Hi	1:35p	2.3 Lo
	9:59a	3.4 Hi	3:26a	-0.3 Lo
	8:31p	5.9 Hi	2:06p	2.4 Lo

### UV index

Minutes to burn for sensitive people

Las Vegas, 10	Phoenix, 10
Los Angeles, 10	San Francisco, 10

### California cities\*

City	Sat.*	Today	Mon.
Anaheim	77 61 -- 78 62	78 62	78 62
Avalon/Catalina	60 54 -- 64 53	64 56	64 56
Bakersfield	98 70 -- 98 71	99 74	99 74
Barstow	104 74 -- 106 75	108 79	108 79
Big Bear Lake	75 42 -- 78 43	77 47	77 47
Bishop	96 58 -- 97 57	97 57	97 57
Burbank	76 58 -- 80 58	81 60	81 60
Camarillo	70 58 -- 69 56	70 59	70 59
Chatsworth	79 59 -- 84 59	83 60	83 60
Chino	83 58 -- 86 60	87 59	87 59
Compton	69 61 -- 75 61	75 62	75 62
Dana Point	69 60 -- 68 60	69 62	69 62
Death Valley	113 85 -- 117 96	119 96	119 96
Del Mar	69 61 -- 62 61	62 61	62 61
Escondido	71 59 Tr 75 59	77 58	77 58
Eureka	57 49 .01 55 50	55 51	55 51
Fallbrook	73 57 -- 77 57	77 56	77 56
Fresno	99 67 -- 98 68	99 68	99 68
Fullerton	76 62 -- 78 62	76 64	76 64
Hemet	83 54 -- 91 55	91 57	91 57
Hesperia	91 61 -- 92 62	91 62	91 62
Huntington Beach	69 62 -- 69 62	69 62	69 62
Idyllwild	81 59 -- 82 60	83 65	83 65
Irvine	71 61 -- 75 62	74 61	74 61

### Sun and moon

Today's rise/set

Los Angeles Co.	Orange Co.	Ventura Co.
Sun 5:41a/8:03p	5:41a/8:02p	5:45a/8:08p
Moon 6:07p/3:35a	6:05p/3:34a	6:12p/3:39a



### Almanac

Saturday Downtown readings

Temperature	Los Angeles	Fullerton	Ventura*
High/low	71/60	74/63	63/56
Normal high/low	76/60	77/61	70/54
High/low a year ago	76/59	75/61	66/58
Record high/date	105/1890	84/2015	75/1981
Record low/date	48/1887	55/2011	43/1950

Precipitation	Los Angeles	Fullerton	Ventura*
24-hour total (as of 2 p.m.)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Season total (since Oct. 1)	7.96	3.93	6.50
Last season (Oct. 1 to date)	22.15	16.59	24.76
Season norm (Oct. 1 to date)	14.06	11.65	15.88
Humidity (high/low)	83/65	39/35	86/70

City	Sat.*	Today	Mon.
L.A. D'town/USC	75 60 -- 77 60	78 62	78 62
L.A. Int'l. Airport	67 61 -- 67 61	67 61	67 61
Laguna Beach	65 61 -- 67 61	67 64	67 64
Lancaster	96 68 -- 97 69	101 73	101 73
Long Beach	75 61 -- 75 61	74 62	74 62
Mammoth Lakes	73 44 -- 77 44	77 45	77 45
Mission Viejo	72 59 -- 76 60	75 61	75 61
Monrovia	78 60 -- 83 59	83 64	83 64
Monterey	66 54 -- 66 53	66 54	66 54
Mt. Wilson	75 56 -- 65 58	64 60	64 60
Needles	108 79 -- 112 81	113 85	113 85
Newport Beach	68 63 -- 69 63	69 65	69 65
Northridge	79 58 -- 83 59	84 59	84 59
Oakland	65 55 -- 65 54	65 55	65 55
Oceanside	71 61 -- 72 60	72 61	72 61
Ojai	79 55 -- 80 57	80 59	80 59
Ontario	83 59 -- 86 61	86 62	86 62
Palm Springs	106 75 -- 109 77	111 78	111 78
Pasadena	74 59 -- 80 59	81 61	81 61
Paso Robles	84 54 -- 85 52	85 54	85 54
Redding	103 70 -- 106 73	106 72	106 72
Riverside	84 56 -- 86 56	87 57	87 57
Sacramento	92 56 -- 89 56	90 56	90 56
San Bernardino	86 58 -- 89 60	89 61	89 61

City	Sat.*	Today	Mon.
San Diego	68 62 .01 69 62	68 63	68 63
San Francisco	67 54 -- 66 53	67 55	67 55
San Gabriel	77 60 -- 81 60	81 62	81 62
San Jose	76 56 -- 78 56	79 58	79 58
San Luis Obispo	70 54 -- 71 51	74 51	74 51
Santa Ana	70 63 -- 73 63	73 64	73 64
Santa Barbara	68 58 -- 71 56	68 56	68 56
Santa Clarita	83 56 -- 89 58	90 59	90 59
Santa Monica Pier	69 61 -- 70 61	70 61	70 61
Santa Paula	73 56 -- 77 57	78 57	78 57
Santa Rosa	75 50 -- 72 47	76 50	76 50
Simi Valley	72 54 -- 80 56	82 57	82 57
Tahoe Valley	75 43 -- 76 43	79 44	79 44
Temecula	74 56 -- 82 57	83 56	83 56
Thousand Oaks	72 55 -- 76 57	77 57	77 57
Torrance	68 61 -- 69 61	68 63	68 63
UCLA	72 59 -- 72 60	75 59	75 59
Van Nuys	82 58 -- 84 59	84 60	84 60
Ventura	65 58 -- 66 58	67 57	67 57
Whittier Hills	74 62 -- 79 61	79 62	79 62
Woodland Hills	83 59 -- 82 59	82 61	82 61
Wrightwood	78 60 -- 78 62	78 64	78 64
Yorba Linda	77 59 -- 79 60	80 60	80 60
Yosemite Valley	86 55 -- 85 57	83 53	83 53

### U.S. cities

SATURDAY'S EXTREMES AS OF 2 P.M. FOR THE 48 CONTIGUOUS STATES

High 106 in Needles, Calif.

Low 31 in Angel Fire, N.M.

City	Saturday*	Today	Sky
Albany	73 65 1.74	77 60	Hr
Albuquerque	90 61 --	92 65	Su
Anchorage	50 44 .16	51 44	R
Aspen	70 34 .02	72 41	Su
Atlanta	91 74 .10	82 68	Ts
Austin	95 78 --	97 75	Pc
Baltimore	85 70 .14	74 65	Ts
Boise	92 57 --	96 64	Su
Boston	67 61 .95	70 56	Pc
Buffalo	79 59 Tr	76 62	Sh
Burlington, Vt.	79 63 Tr	80 61	Hr
Charleston, S.C.	94 76 --	89 71	Ts
Charlotte	90 69 .26	85 67	Ts
Chicago	78 54 --	78 58	Ts
Cincinnati	76 66 .14	77 62	Ts
Cleveland	72 58 --	74 59	Ts
Columbia, S.C.	93 74 .05	86 70	Ts
Columbus	78 65 .01	75 62	Ts
Dallas/Ft.Worth	95 79 .01	96 68	Ts
Denver	82 50 --	72 52	Ts
Detroit	78 56 --	72 60	Ts
El Paso	104 72 --	106 74	Su
Eugene	87 53 --	94 57	Su
Fort Myers	91 77 --	92 76	Pc
Hartford	71 66 .31	78 59	Cy
Honolulu	87 74 --	88 73	Sh
Houston	96 79 Tr	97 79	Su
Indianapolis	75 63 .28	78 60	Pc
Jacksonville, Fla.	93 77 .06	94 75	Ts
Kansas City	76 65 1.14	79 55	Ts
Knoxville	84 69 .17	83 62	Ts
Las Vegas	102 77 --	106 81	Su
Louisville	80 69 .17	81 66	Sh
Medford	98 58 --	103 66	Pc
Memphis	83 70 .50	87 72	Pc
Miami	90 77 Tr	91 79	Ts
Milwaukee	69 54 --	76 56	Ts
Minneapolis	77 60 .01	74 52	Cy
Nashville	84 71 .36	84 65	Cy
New Orleans	94 78 --	94 78	Ts
New York	76 72 .67	74 60	Pc
Norfolk	89 71 .25	84 69	Ts
Oklaoma City	84 64 .91	90 64	Pc
Omaha	80 63 Tr	73 55	Sh
Orlando	91 75 .05	93 73	Ts
Philadelphia	81 69 .07	74 63	Sh
Phoenix	106 80 --	108 79	Su
Pittsburgh	78 63 Tr	68 61	Ts
Portland, Ore.	87 55 --	96 65	Su
Providence	72 65 .34	74 58	Pc
Raleigh/Durham	90 71 .38	90 69	Ts
Reno	93 60 --	94 64	Cy
Richmond	88 69 Tr	82 68	Ts
St. Louis	73 64 .25	83 62	Ts
Salt Lake City	89 60 --	91 65	Su

City	Saturday*	Today	Sky
Seattle	80 55 --	89 62	Su
Tampa	91 79 --	91 77	Pc
Tucson	103 69 --	105 67	Su
Tulsa	83 67 .25	93 63	Pc
Washington, D.C.	86 70 .26	73 66	Ts
Wichita	85 62 .89	85 58	Ts

### World

Acapulco	88 76 .36	87 75	R
Amsterdam	61 54 1.25	61 51	Sh
Athens	97 77 --	89 70	Su
Bangkok	97 81 .08	95 80	R
Barcelona	77 66 --	78 65	Su
Berlin	75 55 .01	66 50	Sh
Cabo San Lucas	93 73 --	90 71	Su
Cairo	97 71 --	95 71	Hr
Dubai	101 82 --	99 86	Hr
Dublin	59 48 .19	61 47	Sh
Havana	90 72 --	91 72	R
Ho Chi Minh City	86 81 .89	89 78	R
Hong Kong	91 80 --	92 81	R
Istanbul	79 66 --	80 65	Su
Jerusalem	87 63 --	85 62	Su
Johannesburg	67 41 --	65 45	Su
Kuala Lumpur	90 76 .05	92 77	Ts
Lima	67 61 --	67 61	Pc
London	65 52 .19	67 50	Sh
Madrid	90 57 --	96 62	Su
Mecca	112 85 --	111 86	Hr
Mexico City	83 59 .17	83 59	Cy
Montreal	77 63 --	77 62	Ts
Moscow	77 61 .13	80 65	Ts
Mumbai	88 81 .20	92 81	R
New Delhi	102 84 --	106 86	Su
Paris	68 57 .06	69 48	Pc
Prague	65 59 .38	65 46	Cy
Rome	88 63 --	83 64	Su
Seoul	83 63 .04	85 65	Hr
Singapore	91 81 .18	91 79	Ts
Taipei City	90 77 .17	93 78	R
Tokyo	79 72 .14	78 69	Sh
Vancouver	71 57 --	72 56	Su
Vienna	85 64 .28	67 55	Sh

Key: Su sunny; Pc partly cloudy; Cy cloudy; Hr foggy; Prcp precipitation; Dr drizzle; Hh hazy; Sh showers; Ts thunderstorms; R rain; Sn snow; Sf snow flurries; L ice; Rs rain/snow; W windy; Tr trace. Notes: National extremes exclude Alaska and Hawaii. \* - data estimated.  
Saturday's readings as of 2 p.m.

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# What a union leader's arrest could set off

[Chabria, from B1] strong Service Employees International Union California, of which Huerta is a part, and the first African American and Latina to lead the organization.

"And I think they've woke people up across the nation, certainly in California, and people are ready to get to action," she added. "I haven't seen that in a long time. I don't know that I've seen something like that before, and so yes, it is going to result in action that I believe is going to be historical."

While unions have voiced their disapproval of mass deportations since the MAGA threat first manifested, the unions' might has not gone full force against them, taking instead a bit of a wait-and-see approach.

Well, folks, we've seen. We've seen the unidentified masked men rounding up immigrants across the country and shipping them into life sentences at torturous foreign prisons; we've watched a 9-year-old Southern California boy separated from his father and detained for deportation; and Friday, across Los Angeles, we saw an anonymous military-style force of federal agents sweep up our neighbors, family members and friends in what seemed to be a haphazard and deliberately cruel way.

And for those of you who have watched the video of Huerta's arrest, we've seen a middle-aged Latino man in a plaid button-down be roughly pushed by authorities in riot gear until he falls backward, and seems to strike his head on the curb. Huerta was, according to a television interview with Mayor Karen Bass, pepper-sprayed as well. Then he was taken to the hospital for treatment, then into custody, where he remains until a Monday arraignment.

U.S. Atty. Bill Essayli wrote on social media that "Federal agents were executing a lawful judicial warrant at a LA worksite



JASON ARMOND Los Angeles Times

**HOMELAND SECURITY** officers arrest a demonstrator at a protest Friday over ICE raids in Los Angeles.

this morning when David Huerta deliberately obstructed their access by blocking their vehicle. He was arrested for interfering with federal officers. ... Let me be clear: I don't care who you are — if you impede federal agents, you will be arrested and prosecuted. No one has the right to assault, obstruct, or interfere with federal authorities carrying out their duties."

I have covered protests, violent and nonviolent, for more than two decades. In one of the first such events I covered, I watched an iconic union leader, Bill Camp, sit down in the middle of a road in a Santa suit and refuse to move. Police arrested him. But they managed to do it without violence, and with-

out Camp's resistance. This is how unions do good trouble: without fear, without violence.

Huerta understands the rules and power of peaceful protest better than most. The union he is president of — SEIU United Service Workers West — started the Justice for Janitors campaign in 1990, a bottom-up movement that in Los Angeles was mostly powered by the immigrant Latina women who cleaned commercial office space for wages as low as \$7 an hour.

After weeks of protests, police attacked those Latina workers in June of that year in what became known as the "Battle of Century City." Two dozen workers were injured but the union

did not back down. Eventually, it won the contracts it was seeking, and equally as important, it won public support.

Huerta joined USWW a few years after that incident, growing the Justice for Janitors campaign. The union was and has always been one powered by immigrant workers who saw that collective power was their best power, and Huerta has led decades of building that truth into a practical force. He is, says Orr, an organizer who knows how to bring people together.

To say he is a beloved and respected leader in both the union and California in general is an understatement. You can still find his bio on the White House

website, since he was honored as a "Champion of Change," by President Obama. Within hours of his arrest, political leaders across the state were voicing support.

"David Huerta is a respected leader, a patriot, and an advocate for working people. No one should ever be harmed for witnessing government action," Gov. Gavin Newsom posted online.

Perhaps more important, AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler, speaking for her 15 million members, issued a statement.

Huerta "was doing what he has always done, and what we do in unions: putting solidarity into practice and defending our

fellow workers," she said. "The labor movement stands with David and we will continue to demand justice for our union brother until he is released."

Similar statements came from the Teamsters and other unions. Solidarity isn't a buzzword to unions. It's the bedrock of their power. In arresting Huerta, that solidarity has been supercharged. Already, union members from across the state are making plans to gather Monday for Huerta's arraignment in downtown Los Angeles.

Meanwhile, Stephen Miller, the Santa Monica native and architect of Trump's deportation plans, has said the raids we are seeing now are just the beginning, and that he would like to see thousands of arrests every day, because our immigrant communities are filled with "every kind of criminal thug that you can imagine on planet earth."

But in arresting Huerta, the battleground has been redrawn in ways we don't fully yet appreciate. No doubt, Miller will have his way and the raids will not only continue, but increase.

But also, the unions are not going to back down.

"Right now, just in the last 14 hours, labor unions are joining together from far and wide, communities are reaching out in ways I've never seen," Orr told me. "Something is different."

Rosa Parks was just a woman on a bus, Orr pointed out, until she was something more. George Floyd was just another Black man stopped by police. Until he was something more.

Huerta is the something more of these immigration raids — not because he's a union boss, but because he's a union organizer with ties to both people in power and people in fear.

The coming months will show what happens when those two groups decide, together, that backing down is not an option.



ICE OUT OF LA!

Deport la Migra NOT the People



# CALIFORNIA

THURSDAY, JUNE 5, 2025 :: LATIMES.COM/CALIFORNIA



**DIST. ATTY.** Nathan Hochman embraces Officer Anthony Pimentel, who was struck by glass in the attack.

## Slain officer ran into danger to help others, officials say



**SNOWBOARDING** goggles are among flowers at a memorial for Baldwin Park Police Officer Samuel Riveros, who was killed Saturday.

BY JAMES QUEALLY  
AND RICHARD WINTON

A 22-year-old man who gunned down a Baldwin Park police officer after allegedly killing his neighbor Saturday night will face multiple murder charges, prosecutors said.

Eduardo Medina-Berumen was charged with two counts of murder with special circumstances, two counts of attempted murder and possession of an assault weapon in connection with the bursts of gunfire that killed Baldwin Park Police Officer Samuel Riveros and Darius Wong. If convicted as charged, he faces life without the possibility of parole.

A rifle and as many as 60 spent shell casings were found at the scene, Los Angeles County Dist. Atty. Nathan Hochman said at a news conference Tuesday.

Sheriff Robert Luna, speaking at the news

[See Officer, B4]

## Leaders decry possible move to strip Milk's name from ship

The Pentagon won't confirm any plans for the vessel and others that honor key figures.

BY KEVIN RECTOR

California leaders denounced reports Tuesday that the Trump administration is preparing to strip the name of slain gay rights leader Harvey Milk from a naval ship honoring his legacy, calling it a slap in the face for the LGBTQ+ community just as Pride month begins.

Milk was elected as a San Francisco supervisor in the 1970s, becoming one of the first out elected officials in the country. After he was assassinated in San Francisco City Hall in 1978, he became an icon of the gay rights movement, with images of his face becoming synonymous with the struggle for gay rights.

Milk had served in the Navy before becoming an activist and political figure, and LGBTQ+ advocates and service members fought for years to have his legacy formally recognized by the Navy.

Both CBS News and the outlet Military.com reported Tuesday afternoon that Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth had ordered the Navy to rename the USNS Harvey Milk, an oiler built in San Diego as part of a series of vessels named for civil rights leaders. It was launched in 2021.

The Pentagon would not confirm or deny that the ship would be renamed.

[See Milk, B2]



JAMES PALMER AP

**POLITICIAN** Harvey Milk, an icon of the gay rights movement, was assassinated in 1978.

## BASS IS CUT AS HOUSING HEARING WITNESS

Group suing over homeless services withdraws subpoena to avoid delays.

BY DAVID ZAHNISER  
AND DOUG SMITH

Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass won't be called as a witness in a multiday federal court hearing that could determine whether the city's homelessness programs are placed in receivership.

Matthew Umhofer, an attorney for the L.A. Alliance for Human Rights, told U.S. District Judge David O. Carter on Tuesday that he and his legal team were withdrawing subpoenas issued in recent weeks to Bass and City Councilmembers Monica Rodriguez and Traci Park. Battling over the appearances, which were opposed by the city, would have delayed the proceedings for several months, he said.

The alliance, which sued the city in 2020 over its response to the homelessness crisis, originally sought testimony from the three politicians as part of an ongoing evidentiary hearing focused on whether the city failed to comply with the terms of a

## Three new wolf packs identified

Sightings in northern region boost total to 10. Livestock ranchers are concerned.

BY LILA SEIDMAN

It was bright and early and Axel Hunnicutt was howling.





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ROBERT GAUTHIER Los Angeles Times  
R BECERRA is rebuilding his house in Altadena, but at least one neighbor has sold their home.

## When Altadenans give up on rebuild, developers move in

In the wake of the devastating fire that tore through Altadena in January, hundreds of signs popped up in the ash-laden yards of burned-down homes: "Altadena for Sale."

The slogan signified a resistance to outside investors looking to flip the droves of suddenly buildable lots. But as the summer real estate market kicks into gear, not only are homes for sale — it seems to be on the shelves.

At least 145 burned lots have been sold so far, around 100 are currently

Sales of scores of burned lots may mean rebirth or doom for the community

By Jack Flemming

listed, and dozens more are in escrow. The identity of every single buyer isn't clear, because many are obscured by trusts or limited liability companies, but real estate records and local sources suggest that developers are buying the lion's share of lots.

It's far outpacing the Palisades market, where fewer than 60 lots have sold since the fire and roughly 180 are sitting on the market, sometimes for months.

The roughly 250 lots sold and listed so far [See Altadena, A9]

## State could lose U.S. funds for high-speed rail

Trump administration says its compliance review finds 'no viable path' forward.

By COLLEEN SHALBY

The Trump administration found "no viable path" forward to complete California's high-speed rail project after a nearly four-month investigation that jeopardizes \$4 billion in federal funding.

In a 310-page compliance review released Wednesday, the Department of Transportation cited budget shortfalls, missed deadlines and a misleading projected ridership to connect San Francisco to Los Angeles via fast rail. The review targets federal grants for construction in the Central Valley. Those funds could be pulled within the next 37 days following the high-speed rail authority's response.

The California High-Speed Rail Authority "relied on the false hope of an unending spigot of Federal taxpayer dollars," the Federal

Railroad Administration's acting administrator, Drew Feeley, wrote. "In essence, CHSRA has conned the taxpayer out of its \$4 billion investment, with no viable plan to deliver even that partial segment on time."

The high-speed rail authority disagreed with the findings, which it called "misguided" and an inaccurate reflection of the project.

"The Authority will fully address and correct the record in our formal response," a spokesperson said. "We remain firmly committed to completing the nation's first true high-speed rail system connecting the major population centers in the state."

Authority leaders previously sounded the alarm over the potential loss of federal funding while voting on new contracts to move forward on construction and design in the Central Valley. Chief Executive Ian Choudri has said that public-private partnerships will be key to the project's future — an idea that has also been raised by a state-appointed

[See Rail, A6]



J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE Associated Press  
HOUSE SPEAKER Mike Johnson (R-La.) discusses President Trump's tax and spending legislation.

## Cost concerns add to bill debate

Trump's spending proposal could steeply increase national debt, the CBO reports.

By MICHAEL WILNER

WASHINGTON — Landmark legislation proposed by the Trump administration would add \$2.4 trillion to the national debt over the next decade, a steep increase in deficits amid growing concern in Washington and on Wall Street over the country's fiscal stability, the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office said Wednesday.

The CBO report, which also found that 10.9 million more Americans would be without health insurance by 2034 because of the bill,

comes amid searing criticism from one of President Trump's most prominent allies, Elon Musk, over spending levels in the legislation that he labeled an "abomination."

The independent budget office also found in a separate report that Trump's tariffs, if left in place at existing levels, would cut annual deficits over the next 10 years by roughly the same figure. That finding could provide the president with ammunition in the political battle ahead over the future viability of the bill. But that same CBO report found his tariff policy would severely shrink the U.S. economy.

The assessments are fueling debate over the legislation, known as the "One Big Beautiful Bill Act," on Capitol Hill, where senators are

[See Budget, A6]



ALLEN J. SCHABEN Los Angeles Times  
BOMB damage last month at American Reproductive Centers in Palm Springs.

## 2nd clinic bombing suspect is returned to U.S., arrested

Prosecutors say man supplied chemicals in

the top federal prosecutor in Los Angeles.

Park is accused of helping Guy Edward Bartkus se

Tuesday night at John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York after being deported, authorities said.

USNS Harvey Milk could lose name



# CALIFORNIA

MONDAY, MAY 26, 2025 :: LATIMES.COM/CALIFORNIA



## REMEMBERING THEIR SACRIFICE

Members of Scout Troop 642 salute after helping to plant flags at Los Angeles National Cemetery in advance of Memorial Day.

MYUNG J. CHUN Los Angeles Times

## Doubts cast on Metro safety program

A fight involving security workers and a separate indictment raise concerns.

By COLLEEN SHALBY

In November 2022, two men connected to a Metro safety program beat up another man on a station platform in a fight captured on video obtained by The Times this month.

The video shows one of the workers squaring off before striking the man while the worker's colleague, wearing a black shirt that says "security," jumps into the fray throwing fists. The man fights back, is pushed down onto the Metro platform, and ends up on the tracks. Still held by one of the pair, he tries to yank away and throws punches until he is let go.

The two "community intervention specialists" — unarmed community members who have experience with at-risk populations and gang intervention — were hired to embed within Metro's "street teams" to de-escalate and prevent violence. It's unclear who the third man is.

Metro has touted the multimillion-dollar safety program as an integral solution in its fight against crime amid a surge in attacks throughout the rail and bus system, while trust in law enforcement has waned. But the 2022 incident involving the two men and the recent indictment of a co-founder of a community group affiliated with the community intervention specialist program have raised questions about the oversight of Metro's plan.

[See Metro, B2]

## This L.A. woman changed parenting for good

Ruth Beaglehole was a lifelong advocate of empathy and kindness in raising children.

By DEBORAH NETBURN

USC professor Andrew Ogilvie was standing outside Canyon Coffee in Echo Park last May, his youngest daughter dangling from his chest in a baby carrier, when a gray-haired woman with a New Zealand accent approached him, placing a gentle hand on the baby's back. "When she's having a tough time two years from now, remember this warmth," she said, smiling. Ogilvie, who had seen the woman's photo on missives from the local elementary school, smiled back, honored to be in the presence of an L.A. legend. "Oh, Ruth," he said. "You don't know who I am, but I know who you are."

Like thousands of L.A. parents before him, Ogilvie had just had his first lesson with parent educator and child rights activist Ruth Beaglehole, who devoted her life to countering "childism" — the misuse of power over children — and taught generations of Angelenos to parent their children with empathy.

Voices **GEORGE SKELTON** COLUMNIST CAPITOL JOURNAL

## Harris hasn't shown much interest in being governor

She shouldn't view the job as a consolation prize after losing to Trump

**T**he big question in California politics is, "Will Kamala Harris run for governor?" But that's the wrong question. Far more important is, "Should she?" And that's not a question to be answered based strictly on her prospects for winning.

Initially, at least, the former vice president would be the heavy favorite to succeed termed-out Gov. Gavin

Newsom — although, eventually, she could find herself in a tough election fight next year.

Rather, the answer should be determined based on what strengths, goals and ideas she would bring to the table — her specific plans for fixing California's enormous problems, her eagerness to fight even political allies to achieve her objectives and her own desire to lead the state's comeback.

She shouldn't view the job as a

consolation prize after losing the presidential election to Donald Trump. Voters would smell that and, anyway, Harris would be miserably bored in the state Capitol dealing with budget minutiae and relatively inexperienced legislative leaders.

So far, since returning from Washington to her native state, Harris, 60, has displayed none of the above criteria that California needs in its next governor.

[See Skelton, B2]



## Residents in Echo Park see ghost kitchen as a nuisance

By KAREN GARCIA

As soon as Echo Park Eats opened on the corner of Sunset Boulevard and Douglas Street in the fall of 2023, Sandy Romer said, her neighborhood became overrun with delivery drivers.

"The first day that they opened business it was chaotic," she said.



# Los Angeles Times

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MONDAY, MAY 26, 2025

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MOVIEGOERS at the AMC Century City theater head to a "Lilo & Stitch" screening with plenty of snacks. JASON ARMOND Los Angeles Times

## A good sign for summer movies

'Lilo & Stitch' and a new 'Mission: Impossible' power a record Memorial Day weekend box office, boosting hope for theaters

By SAMANTHA MASUNAGA

A chaotic blue alien and the high-flying escapades of Tom Cruise propelled the Memorial Day weekend box office to record heights, giving relief to theater owners still struggling from a post-pandemic malaise among moviegoers.

Walt Disney Co.'s live-action film "Lilo & Stitch" hauled in \$183 million in its opening weekend in the U.S. and Canada, according to studio estimates, landing it in first place.

It's the biggest Memorial Day weekend opener ever, not adjusting for inflation, topping "Top Gun: Maverick," which debuted with

\$160.5 million in 2022.

Paramount Pictures and Skydance Media's "Mission: Impossible — The Final Reckoning" brought in \$77 million domestically for second place. "Final Destination Bloodlines," "Thunderbolts\*" and "Sinners" rounded out the top five this weekend.

The two new studio

blockbusters were big overseas too. Globally, "Lilo & Stitch" collected \$341.7 million including domestic ticket sales. The worldwide tally for "Mission: Impossible," the eighth in the series, was \$190 million.

"This is just an extraordinary accomplishment after so many people were willing [See Movies, A10]

## Fearing spies, Taiwan deports Chinese

Authorities demand hard-to-source papers from mainland-born residents. Some are kicked off the island.

By STEPHANIE YANG  
AND XIN-YUN WU

TAIPEI, Taiwan — Liu Jia-yen had been living in Taiwan for more than two decades when she received notice that she was at risk of being deported.

In April, the National Immigration Agency told Liu, a 51-year-old Chinese immigrant, she had three months to provide evidence that she



A TAIWANESE flag glows in the sunlight at the Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall in Taipei last year. I-HWA CHENG AFP/Getty Images

gave up her household registration — an official record of residence that grants benefits such as healthcare and education — in Guangxi, China. If she couldn't find the right documents, she'd have to leave.

Liu thought she'd submitted the files long ago and called her 26-year-old daughter, Ariel Ko, in tears.

Ko, who was born and raised in Taiwan, called the immigration agency dozens of times over the next few days, unable to reach an operator. Meanwhile in China, Liu's 80-year-old grandfather began visiting his local police station in search of old records, and her brother scoured his list of govern-

[See Taiwan, A4]

## Clinic makes house calls for migrants afraid to leave home

Patients are skipping doctor visits for fear of immigration raids. So L.A.-area provider is going to them.

By MELISSA GOMEZ

Across Los Angeles, the Inland Empire and the Coachella Valley, one community health center is extending its services to immigrant patients in their homes after realizing that people were skipping critical medical appointments because they've become too afraid to venture out.

St. John's Community Health, one of the largest nonprofit community healthcare providers in Los Angeles County that caters to low-income and working-class residents, launched a

home visitation program in March after learning that patients were missing routine and urgent care appointments because they feared being taken in by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents.

St. John's, which offers services through a network of clinics and mobile units across the region, estimates that at least 25,000 of its patients are undocumented, and about a third of them suffer from chronic conditions, including diabetes and hypertension, which require routine checkups. But these patients were missing tests to monitor their blood sugar and blood pressure, as well as appointments to pick up prescription refills.

Earlier this year, the health center began surveying patients and found that hundreds were canceling appointments "solely due to [See Immigrants, A6]

## Villaraigosa pivots toward oil industry

Former L.A. mayor's environmentalist credentials are questioned as he runs for governor.

By SEEMA MEHTA  
AND LAURA J. NELSON

As California positions itself as a leader on climate change, former Los Angeles mayor and gubernatorial candidate Antonio Villaraigosa is pivoting away from his own track record as an environmental champion to defend the state's struggling oil industry.

Villaraigosa's work to expand mass transit, plant trees and reduce carbon emissions made him a favorite of the environmental movement, but the former state Assembly speaker also

accepted more than \$1 million in campaign contributions and other financial support from oil companies and other donors tied to the industry over more than three decades in public life, according to city and state fundraising disclosures reviewed by The Times.

Since entering the race last year to replace Gov. Gavin Newsom, Villaraigosa has accepted more than \$176,000 from donors with ties to the oil industry, including from a company that operates oil fields in the San Joaquin Valley and Los Angeles County, the disclosures show.

The clash between Villaraigosa's environmentalist credentials and oil-industry ties surfaced in the governor's race after Valero announced in late April that its Bay Area refinery would close next year, not long after [See Villaraigosa, A7]

### COLUMN ONE

## L.A. prop maker finds new life preserving beloved pets

Famous as the taxidermist to film sets and stars for over 100 years, Bischoff's is now the go-to for grieving owners.

By JESSIE SCHIEWE

In a room inside a North Hollywood warehouse, dozens of pets are ready for their owners to take them home.

Boots, a young black-and-white domestic shorthair cat, lies on his back, purring.



### Billionaire turns to fossil fuels

Phil Anschutz is now touting a gas plant instead of a wind farm, Sammy Roth writes. PERSPECTIVES, A2

### Woes over AI 'hallucinations'

Using artificial intelligence is costly for lawyers in lost cases and more, Michael Hiltzik writes. BUSINESS, A9

### At Cannes, bold works stand out



## Divided House passes Trump's megabill

Measure would boost funding for defense and border security, revamp tax code and renew 2017 tax cuts.

By MICHAEL WILNER

WASHINGTON—Landmark legislation that would rewrite the tax code and levy steep cuts to programs providing healthcare and food stamps to the poor passed the House early Thursday, a development that was celebrated by President Trump despite the bill facing an uncertain future among Senate Republicans.

The measure, titled the "One Big Beautiful Bill Act," would boost funding for border security and the Defense Department, eliminate taxes on tips and overtime, provide a new tax deduction to seniors and renew the 2017 tax cuts passed during the first Trump administration. To pay for those new funding commitments, the bill proposes eliminating green energy tax benefits passed under President Biden, as well as an estimated \$1 trillion in cuts to Medicaid and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

Even still, the bill would add so much money to the debt that Congress may be forced to execute cuts across the board, including hundreds of billions to Medicare, in a process known as sequestration, according to the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office.

The House vote fell along party lines. By opposing the bill, the Trump administration said that Democrats were supporting the largest tax increase on middle-class Americans in decades, a reference to the upcoming expiration of Trump's 2017 tax cuts at the end of the year.

Democrats, on the other hand, have accused Republicans of voting for the deepest cuts to healthcare in modern times. By creating new barriers to Medicaid coverage through the introduction of work requirements, [See Bill, A6]

### Education Dept. layoffs blocked

Federal judge rejects executive order and instructs agency to reinstate over 2,000 employees. NATION, A5

### State's dirtiest beaches unveiled

Heal the Bay releases its annual report card. Santa Monica Pier makes the dubious list again. CALIFORNIA, B1

### Vuitton bets big on Red Bull



KELVIN KUO Los Angeles Times

### PLANE CRASH IN SAN DIEGO

Investigators look at a charred house after a small private jet crashed into a San Diego neighborhood Thursday, killing at least three onboard, scorching several homes and forcing evacuations. CALIFORNIA, B1

## Split Supreme Court blocks first religious charter school

Oklahoma argued its constitution did not allow for such state funding

By DAVID G. SAVAGE

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court dealt an unexpected blow Thursday to the conservative drive for religious charter schools, with the justices splitting 4-4 and unable to rule in a case from Oklahoma that had the ef-

fect of blocking a proposed new Catholic charter school.

If upheld, it would have been the nation's first tax-funded, church-run charter school. In recent years, charter schools have proved popular with parents in major cities and in rural areas, and their numbers would surely have grown if

churches or religious groups were free to operate these schools.

The Supreme Court has six conservatives, all of whom were raised as Catholics. And Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr. has written opinions ruling it was unconstitutional to exclude churches from sponsoring a

program of vouchers or tuition subsidies for children attending private schools.

Religious-liberty advocates appealed to the Supreme Court last year arguing that it was also unconstitutional to exclude churches from sponsoring a [See Charter, A6]

## Edison's rate hike plan draws anger

Utility is seeking a 10% increase for its costs. 'We paid in our suffering,' says an Eaton fire survivor.

By CAROLINE PETROW-COHEN

As Southern California Edison faces scrutiny over the role its equipment may have played in sparking the deadly Eaton fire, the utility giant is facing some push-

back from ratepayers over plans to seek another increase in electricity rates.

The California Public Utilities Commission is expected to make a decision this summer on Edison's request to raise rates by 10% in order to pay for wildfire mitigation and cover "reasonable costs of its operations, facilities [and] infrastructure," the request filing said.

If approved, the rate hike would mean an \$18 average increase in monthly electrical bills for Edison's 15 million customers.

Although Edison filed its

rate request before the fires, the timing doesn't sit well with some Edison customers, especially for survivors of the Eaton fire that destroyed swaths of Altadena during a series of historical Southern California wildfires in January.

The Eaton fire killed at least 18 people and burned more than 14,000 acres. The cause of the blaze has not been determined, but the company has acknowledged that it may have been sparked by a faulty dormant power line operated by Edison.

"There's definitely a great deal of resentment and anger," said Eaton fire survivor Rossana Valverde, who lived 300 yards from the Edison transmission tower where the fire may have begun.

Valverde's home is still standing, but she says it sustained heavy smoke damage and is filled with high levels of arsenic, asbestos and other harmful toxins from the fire.

"I think Edison has a tremendous amount of nerve to ask for more money [See Edison, A10]

## JUN 09 2025 STATE RULE ON GAS-ONLY CARS IS REVOKED

The Senate voted to nullify California's plan to ban the sale of new vehicles that run only on fossil fuels.

By TONY BRISCOE

The Republican-controlled U.S. Senate defied congressional norms and voted Thursday to revoke California's progressive vehicle emission standards, including a rule that would've effectively banned the sale of new gasoline-only cars by 2035.

In a 51-44 vote, the Senate overturned a Biden-era waiver that enabled California and a contingent of Democratic-led states to enforce zero-emission requirements for the sale of new passenger vehicles. After several hours of debate and testimony, legislators struck down a landmark regulation that aimed to drastically accelerate electric vehicle sales in California and nearly a dozen other states that chose to follow its lead, substantially reducing air pollution and planet-warming carbon emissions from tailpipes.

The Advanced Clean Cars II rule, enacted in 2022 by the California Air Resources Board and granted a federal waiver by the Biden administration's Environmental Protection Agency in December 2024, required car manufacturers to sell an increasing percentage of zero-emission or plug-in hybrid vehicles to California dealerships over the next decade. Starting next year, the rule would have mandated that 35% of all new vehicles supplied to California dealerships be zero-emission vehicles or plug-in hybrids. By 2035, it would've prohibited the sale of new, gas-only cars statewide.

By invalidating the rule, Republican senators stamped out one of California's most ambitious environmental policies and, more broadly, challenged the state's authority to enact vehicle standards to combat its notoriously unhealthy air quality. If the measure is signed into law by President [See Cars, A12]

## She's only 11 — and she's wrapped up community college



Alisa Perales is among youngest graduates in California history

By ANDREW J. CAMPA

"It was my first time I had ever had a student so



Sunday

# Los Angeles Times

latimes.com

SUNDAY, MAY 25, 2025

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LAPD CHIEF Jim McDonnell, center, says the Police Department must "restore pride within the profession."

## Five years after Floyd protests, L.A. paying for police tactics

Use of projectiles at 2020 rallies has cost \$11.9 million in awards and settlements and remains controversial.

By LIBOR JANY

As mass protests over the police murder of George Floyd raged across Los Angeles in late May 2020, the LAPD had an unexpected problem.

After a week of demonstrations, officers had fired so many "less-lethal" crowd control projectiles made of rubber that the department's stockpile was running low.

Scrambling to buy more, officials arranged for two reserve officers to fly a private plane to Casper, Wyo., to pick up 2,000 additional rounds from an arms wholesaler called Safariland, according to LAPD emails reviewed by The Times.

The days and weeks that followed brought more unrest in the streets, with police criticized for indiscriminately firing rubber rounds into crowds, injuring scores of people with shots to the face or torso.

Multiple reports and activists assailed the department's response to the protests as a botched operation that resulted from poor planning, inadequate training and failure to learn from past mistakes.

According to The Times' analysis of LAPD data released by the L.A. city attorney's office, police actions related to the George Floyd protests have cost \$11.9 million in settlements and jury awards. Scores of other pending lawsuits represent potentially tens of millions more in liability exposure.

Yet five years removed from Floyd's killing, police backers say public opinion has largely swung back in favor of aggressive law enforcement, pointing as proof to last year's passage of tough-on-crime legislation and ousting of progressive prosecutors.

Last month, President Trump issued an executive order promising to "unleash high-impact local police forces" in his administration's campaign against "criminal aliens."

The U.S. Department of Justice moved last week to cancel settlements to overhaul police departments in Louisville, Ky., and Minneapolis. The federal oversight was part of the national

## The road to surgeon general is paved with good intentions

On Oct. 29, 2022, the universe told Dr. Casey Means her fate lay in Los Angeles.

President Trump's new pick for surgeon general wrote in her popular online newsletter of her epiphany, which came during a dawn hike among the cadmium-colored California oaks and flames of wild mustard flower painting the Topanga Canyon: "You must move to L.A. This is where your partner is!"

How Trump nominee met L.A. influencers shaping the 'Make America Healthy Again' movement

By Sonja Sharp

Los Angeles has been a Shangri-La for health-seekers since its Gold Rush days as the sanitarium capital of the United States.

Today, it's the epicenter of America's \$480-billion wellness industry, where gym-fluencers, plant-medicine gurus and celebrity physicians trade health secrets and discount codes across their blue-check Instagram pages and chart-topping

[See MAHA, A9]

## Immigrants are arrested after cases dismissed

By MELISSA GOMEZ AND RACHEL URANGA

The man just had his immigration case dismissed and his wife and 8-year-old son were trailing behind him when agents surrounded him and then handcuffed him outside the downtown Los Angeles courtroom.

Erick Eduardo Fonseca Solorzano stood speechless. His wife trembled in panic. The federal agents explained in Spanish that he would be put into expedited removal proceedings.

Just moments earlier on Friday, Judge Peter A. Kim had issued a dismissal of his deportation case. Now his son watched in wide-eyed disbelief as agents quickly shuffled him to a service elevator — and he was gone. The boy was silent, sticking close by his mother, tears welling.

"This kid will be traumatized for life," said Lindsay Toczylowski, chief executive and co-founder of Immigrant Defenders Law Center, who reached out to the family to help them with

[See Arrests, A10]



THE YOSEMITE Post Office is turning 100 amid a challenging period.

## Yosemite's longtime lifeline

The remote post office building has connected the park to the outside world for 100 years

By HAILEY BRANSON-POTTS

## Cuts spur warning of soaring HIV rates

Coalition says loss of federal funds would affect nation and hit California the hardest.

By KEVIN RECTOR AND SUSANNE RUST

A growing coalition of HIV prevention organizations, health experts and Democrats in Congress are sounding the alarm over sweeping Trump administration cuts to HIV/AIDS prevention and surveillance programs nationally, warning they will reverse years of progress combating the disease and cause spikes in new cases — especially in California and among the LGBTQ+ community.

In a letter Friday addressed to Health and Human Services Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr., Rep.



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THE WEATHER  
Thunderstorms will form across the  
northern Rockies today, while other  
thunderstorms could bring much-  
needed rain to parts of Florida.  
Weather map appears on Page B7.

JUN 11 2025

Prices in Canada may be higher \$4.00

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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11, 2025



Armored vehicles on U.S. 101 on Tuesday. The deployment of troops in California was expected to last 60 days and cost \$134 million.

## F.D.A. to Seek Faster Process With A.I. Help

By CHRISTINA JEWETT

The Food and Drug Administration is planning to use artificial intelligence to "radically increase efficiency" in deciding whether to approve new drugs and devices, one of several top priorities laid out in an article published Tuesday in JAMA.

Another initiative involves a review of chemicals and other "concerning ingredients" that appear in U.S. food but not in the food of other developed nations. And officials want to speed up the final stages of making a drug or medical device approval decision to mere weeks, citing the success of Operation Warp Speed during the Covid pandemic when workers raced to curb a spiraling death count.

"The F.D.A. will be focused on delivering faster cures and meaningful treatments for patients, especially those with neglected and rare diseases, healthier food for children and common-sense approaches to rebuild the public trust," Dr. Marty Makary, the agency commissioner, and Dr. Vinay Prasad, who leads the division that oversees vaccines and gene therapy, wrote in the JAMA article.

The agency plays a central role in pursuing the agenda of the U.S. health secretary, Robert F. Kennedy Jr., and it has already begun to press food makers to eliminate artificial food dyes. The new road map also underscores the Trump administration's efforts to smooth the way for major industries with an array of efforts aimed at getting products to pharmacies and store shelves quickly.

Some aspects of the proposals outlined in JAMA were met with skepticism, particularly the idea that artificial intelligence is up to the task of shearing months or years from the painstaking work of examining applications that companies submit when seeking approval for a drug or high-risk medical device.

"I don't want to be dismissive of speeding reviews at the F.D.A.," said Stephen Holland, a lawyer who formerly advised the House Committee on Energy and Commerce on health care. "I think that

## In New York, One Step Closer to Assisted Death

By GRACE ASHFORD

ALBANY, N.Y. — The New York State Senate approved a bill on Monday that would allow people facing terminal diagnoses to end their lives on their own terms, which the bill's proponents say would grant a measure of autonomy to New Yorkers in their final days.

The bill, which passed the State Assembly earlier this year, will now head to the desk of Gov. Kathy Hochul, a Democrat, for her signature. It is unclear whether she plans to sign it; a spokesman for her office said she would review it.

Eleven states and the District of

### Bill for Terminally Ill, Shaped Decade Ago, Heads to Hochul

Columbia have passed laws permitting so-called medical aid in dying. The practice is also available in several European countries and in Canada, which recently broadened its criteria to extend the option to people with incurable chronic illnesses and disabilities.

The bill in New York is written more narrowly and would apply only to people who have an incurable and irreversible illness, with

six months or less to live. Proponents say that distinction is crucial.

"It isn't about ending a person's life, but shortening their death," said State Senator Brad Hoylman-Sigal, a Manhattan Democrat and one of the sponsors of the bill. It passed on Monday night by a vote of 35 to 27, mostly along partisan lines.

He framed the measure as a statement of New York's values, citing efforts by Republicans to increase governmental control over people's bodies, including by restricting gender-affirming care and abortion.

"This is about personal autonomy," he said. "This is about liberty."

Continued on Page A17

SLY STONE, 1943-2025

## Funk Maestro Who Provoked in Platform Shoes

By JOE COSCARELLI

Sly Stone, the influential, eccentric and preternaturally rhythmic singer, songwriter, multi-instrumentalist and producer whose run of hits in the late 1960s and early '70s with his band the Family Stone could be dance anthems, political documents or both, died on Monday at home in the Granada Hills neighborhood of Los Angeles. He was 82.

The cause was "a prolonged battle with C.O.P.D.," or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, "and other underlying health issues," his representatives said in a statement.

As the colorful maestro and mastermind of a multiracial, mixed-gender band, Mr. Stone experimented with the R&B, soul and gospel music he was raised on in the San Francisco area, mixing classic ingredients of Black music with progressive funk and the expanding freedoms of psychedelic rock 'n' roll.

Sly and the Family Stone's most recognizable songs, many of which would be sampled by hip-hop artists, include "Everyday People," "Dance to the Music," "I Want to Take You Higher," "Family Affair," "Hot Fun in the Summertime" and "Thank You (Falettinme Be Mice Elf Agin)."

Though Mr. Stone eventually



Sly Stone, leader of the hit-making Family Stone band, in 1973.

jazz musicians like Miles Davis and Herbie Hancock. As the critic

historian Questlove, who directed the Academy Award-winning 2021 documentary "Summer

## Trump Tests Federal Power As 700 Marines Go to L.A.

NEWS ANALYSIS

### 'Bogus Emergencies' Alarm Scholars

By ADAM LIPTAK

WASHINGTON — To hear President Trump tell it, the nation is facing a rebellion in Los Angeles, an invasion by a Venezuelan gang and extraordinary foreign threats to its economy.

Citing this series of crises, he has sought to draw on emergency powers that Congress has scattered throughout the United States Code over the centuries, summoning the National Guard to Los Angeles over the objections of California's governor, sending scores of migrants to El Salvador without the barest hint of due process and upending the global economy with steep tariffs.

Legal scholars say the president's actions are not authorized by the statutes he has cited and are, instead, animated by a different goal.

"He is declaring utterly bogus emergencies for the sake of trying to expand his power, undermine the Constitution and destroy civil liberties," said Ilya Somin, a libertarian professor at Antonin Scalia Law School who represents a wine importer and other businesses challenging some of Mr. Trump's tariffs.

Crisis is Mr. Trump's brand. When he took office the first time, he promised to end "American carnage." When he announced his most recent reelection campaign, he said he would reverse "staggering American decline." Ever since he first ran for president in 2015, he has argued that only he can restore the country to greatness.

Now in office again, he is converting that rhetoric into policy. Mr. Trump says that events and circumstances largely considered routine amount to emergencies that allow him to invoke powers rarely sought by his predecessors but embedded in statutes by lawmakers who wanted to ensure presidents could act quickly and ag-

Continued on Page A14

More on the White House

**LOYALTY** The administration is screening federal job applicants to determine their allegiance to the president's policies. PAGE A16

**SEEKING DEAL** The U.S. and China know each others' pain points, but can they defuse a trade jam that is hurting them both? PAGE B1

### State Urges Court to Limit Use of Forces During Protests

This article is by Billy Witz, John Yoon, David E. Sanger and Michael Levenson.

About 700 Marines arrived in the Los Angeles area on Tuesday in response to several days of protests over President Trump's immigration enforcement actions, testing the boundaries of the president's power to use military forces on American soil.

The Marines joined about 4,000 National Guard troops that Mr. Trump had also deployed over the objections of Mayor Karen Bass of Los Angeles and Gov. Gavin Newsom of California, two Democrats who have said that local and state law enforcement were capable of handling the protests and that the use of federal troops would only inflame tensions.

State and city officials, legal experts and Democrats in Congress have called the deployment of ac-



Mayor Karen Bass and other Democrats said federal troops would only inflame tensions.

tive-duty Marines in Los Angeles deeply alarming. By tradition and law, American military troops are supposed to be used inside the United States only in the rarest and most extreme situations.

"The Trump administration is test-driving a novel legal theory that you can circumvent the restrictions on domestic law enforcement by the American military," said Kori Schake, an expert on defense policy at the American Enterprise Institute and the author of a forthcoming history of civil-military relations.

She added that the administration appeared to be "blurring the line" between federalization of the National Guard under existing U.S. law and the use of active-duty American military forces domestically, calling it "a dangerous undertaking."

Continued on Page A13

## Trump Family Project in Serbia Leads to Outcry, and a Charge

By SHARON LaFRANIERE and PAVLE KOSIC

WASHINGTON — Over the past year, the Trump family has zoomed around the world signing one new real estate development deal after another, often involving foreign governments, raising a litany of ethical concerns.

But only one of those has led to a publicly announced criminal investigation of local officials. And the inquiry came after a plucky group of cultural preservationists in Serbia stood up to their own government and, by extension, the close relatives of the powerful American president.

President Trump's son-in-law, Jared Kushner, has a deal with the Serbian government to build a half-billion-dollar hotel and apart-

Jr., as the luxury hotel will bear the Trump brand.

In November, one week after Mr. Trump won re-election, the Serbian government greased the skids by declaring that the site — a bombed-out building that serves as an icon to Serbians' suffering during a 1999 conflict — was no longer considered a culturally protected asset. That paved the way for the Trump family project.

Dozens of architects and cultural historians at the state-run Republic Institute for the Protection of Cultural Monuments cried foul, accusing the government of violating the law. Several days after the government's decision, they fired off a letter saying the proper-



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## THE WEATHER

Rounds of showers and thunderstorms are forecast from the Southeast to eastern Texas and in Minnesota. Elsewhere will be mainly dry. Weather map appears on Page D8.

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MONDAY, JUNE 16, 2025

Prices in Canada may be higher

\$4.00

## Violent Action Tied to Politics Is New Reality

### Partisan Divide in U.S. Drives Rise in Threats

By LISA LERER

The statements of shock and condolences streamed in eerily one after another on Saturday after the assassination of a Minnesota lawmaker and her husband, and the attempted murder of another lawmaker and his wife.

"Horrible news," said Representative Steve Scalise, who was shot at a baseball game in 2017. "Paul and I are heartbroken," said former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, whose husband was bludgeoned with a hammer in 2022. "My family and I know the horror of a targeted shooting all too well," said former Representative Gabby Giffords, who was shot in the head in 2011.

Still more came from Gov. Josh Shapiro of Pennsylvania (arson, 2025), Gov. Gretchen Whitmer of Michigan (kidnapping plot, 2020) and President Trump (two assassination attempts, 2024).

"Such horrific violence will not be tolerated in the United States of America," the president said.

And yet the expanding club of survivors of political violence seemed to stand as evidence to the contrary.

In the past three months alone, a man set fire to the Pennsylvania governor's residence while Mr. Shapiro and his family were asleep inside; another man gunned down a pair of workers from the Israeli Embassy outside an event in Washington; protesters calling for the release of Israeli hostages in Boulder, Colo., were set on fire; and the Republican Party headquarters in New Mexico and a Tesla dealership near Albuquerque were fire-bombed.

And those were just the incidents that resulted in death or destruction.

Against that backdrop, it might have been shocking, but it was not really so surprising, when on Saturday

Continued on Page A17

## ISRAEL AND IRAN TRADE BLASTS AS TOLL RISES

JUN 16 2025



ARASH KHAMOOSHI FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Smoke rising from explosions in Tehran on Sunday after Israeli strikes. "I never imagined witnessing such a scene in my city during my lifetime," one resident said.



AVISHAG SHAAR-YASHUV FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

An Iranian attack on Bat Yam, Israel, killed at least six people. Paramedics were trying to save three trapped under the debris.

### Path to Diplomacy Shrinks, and Civilians Seek Shelter

This article is by Natan Odenheimer, Farnaz Fassihi, Aaron Boxerman and Eric Nagourney.

Israel and Iran exchanged more missile attacks on population centers on Sunday, brushing aside international calls to halt what has quickly become the fiercest clash in decades between the two sworn enemies.

The path to diplomacy appeared to narrow after officials called off talks that had been set for Sunday between Tehran and Washington on the future of Iran's nuclear program.

In unleashing a series of powerful strikes starting on Friday, Israel said its goal was to disable

Iran's nuclear infrastructure. It appeared unlikely that this has been accomplished, experts say, and with each side vowing to pursue attacks, civilians in both countries were seeking shelter where they could.

A semiofficial Iranian news agency, ISNA, released photos of what it said was the aftermath of an Israeli strike Sunday that hit a residential neighborhood in central Tehran.

The photos showed some people fleeing, carrying young children. Two men could be seen lying on the pavement bleeding as people tried to tend to their injuries. And a woman stood crying as she held an infant whose clothes and

feet were covered in blood.

The skies of Tehran, the Iranian capital, were aglow with flames from burning fuel reservoirs overnight after Israeli fighter jets bombarded the country's vital oil and gas industries.

"I never imagined witnessing such a scene in my city during my lifetime," said Behzed, a 40-year-old copyright expert who asked to be identified only by his first name.

In Israel, orange-vested emergency workers were clambering over rubble on Sunday morning in the central coastal city of Bat Yam in the wake of an Iranian missile strike that killed at least six people.

Continued on Page A6

## Why Trump Lets Some Sectors Keep Migrants

This article is by Tyler Pager, Miriam Jordan, Hamed Aleaziz and Zolan Kanno-Youngs.

WASHINGTON — On Wednesday morning, President Trump took a call from Brooke Rollins, his secretary of agriculture, who relayed a growing sense of alarm from the heartland.

Farmers and agriculture groups, she said, were increasingly uneasy about his immigration crackdown. Federal agents had begun to aggressively target work sites in recent weeks, with the goal of sharply bolstering the

### Reversal Shows Divide in the White House

number of arrests and deportations of undocumented immigrants.

Farmers rely on immigrants to work long hours, Ms. Rollins said. She told the president that farm groups had been warning her that their employees would stop showing up to work out of fear, potentially crippling the agricultural industry.

She wasn't the first person to try to get this message through to the president, nor was it the first time she had spoken to him about it. But the president was persuaded.

The next morning, he posted a message on his social media platform, Truth Social, that took an uncharacteristically softer tone toward the very immigrants he has spent much of his political career demonizing. Immigrants in the farming and hospitality industries are "very good, long time workers," he said. "Changes are

Continued on Page A12

## Justice Barrett Is Confounding Court Observers on Both Sides

By JODI KANTOR

As President Trump was leaning toward appointing Amy Coney Barrett to the Supreme Court five years ago, some advisers shared doubts about whether she was conservative enough. But he waved them away, according to someone familiar with the discussions. He wanted a nominee religious conservatives would applaud, and with an election approaching, he was up against the clock.

Soon after Justice Barrett arrived at the court she began surprising her colleagues. Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr. assigned her to write a majority opinion — among her first — allowing the seizure of state property in a pipeline case, according to several people aware of the process. But she then changed her mind and took the opposite stance, a bold move that risked irritating the chief justice.

In another early case, as Justice Samuel A. Alito Jr. tried to further his decades-long quest to expand the role of religion in public life, she preferred a more restrained route, setting off a clash in their



KENNY HOLSTON/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Justice Amy Coney Barrett has not voted on cases predictably.

Justice Amy Coney Barrett has not voted on cases predictably.

Justice Amy Coney Barrett has not voted on cases predictably.

## 2 Indian Pilots, A Mayday Call And Mourning

By HARI KUMAR  
and MUJIB MASHAL

AHMEDABAD, India — Capt. Sumeet Sabharwal, 55, had been considering early retirement to care for his octogenarian father. His co-pilot for the day, Clive Kunder, 32, had just started to build momentum in his career.

Together, they brought nearly 10,000 hours of flight experience to the cockpit. But now it is the final moments of their last flight, the ill-fated Air India Flight 171, that investigators will be studying for months to come. The flight, which took off on Thursday from the city of Ahmedabad bound for London, lasted less than a minute in the air before crashing into the campus of a medical college, leaving at least 270 people dead.

The impact ignited a fireball so intense that the bodies of most of the victims were damaged beyond recognition, officials have said. By Sunday morning, three days after the crash, the remains of only 35 onboard the Boeing 787 had been identified through DNA tests and released to the families.

## Calm Voice on Phone, and Abortion Pills by Mail

By PAM BELLUCK

The young woman's voice trembled over the phone. Sitting in her car in Alabama, where abortion is almost totally banned, the 26-year-old mother of two was grappling with an unintended pregnancy.

"I'm like 'How in the world?'" she said, stifling a sob. "I already have two children, and I cannot. I can't. I just can't go through with it."



HANNAH YOON FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

a home office filled with plants and shelves of medication. "And that's why we want you to call us, even if you're calling just to say: 'I'm scared. I need to hear somebody tell me that what's going on right now is normal, and it's OK.'"

During the 25-minute conversation, Ms. Lynch asked the woman about her health history and pregnancy and assessed that she was medically eligible for abortion medications that can be taken in the first 12 weeks of pregnancy: mifepristone, which blocks a hor-



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## THE WEATHER

Showers and thunderstorms are expected today along the East Coast and down into states on the Gulf Coast. It will be mainly dry elsewhere. Weather map is on Page B12.

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TUESDAY, JUNE 10, 2025

Prices in Canada may be higher

\$4.00

## Democrats See Some Positives In Trump's Bill

### They Like Tax-Exempt Tips and Overtime

By ANDREW DUEHREN

WASHINGTON — Democrats have no shortage of criticism for the sprawling Republican policy bill winding its way through Congress carrying President Trump's agenda. It would cost too much, they contend, rip health coverage and food assistance away from too many people and strip vital support from clean energy companies.

When it comes to some of the tax cuts in the bill, however, Democrats have been less resistant. Some of them concede that they would support many of those provisions if they were not rolled into the larger piece of legislation. In recent weeks, they have taken pains to demonstrate that support.

Last month, Senator Jacky Rosen, Democrat of Nevada, successfully moved to have the Senate unanimously approve a version of Mr. Trump's "no tax on tips" proposal. While the effort was almost entirely symbolic — under the Constitution, the House must originate tax measures — it was still an opportunity for Democrats to go on the record backing a campaign promise of Mr. Trump's that is broadly popular with the public.

"I am not afraid to embrace a good idea, wherever it comes from," Ms. Rosen said on the Senate floor at the time.

The undercurrent of Democratic support for elements of the Republican tax agenda reflects the political potency of some of Mr. Trump's campaign promises, even those that have been derided by tax policy experts. It also suggests that temporary provisions in the Republican bill, like exempting tips and overtime pay

Continued on Page A12

## Limits on Loans Could Intensify Doctor Shortfall

By RONI CARYN RABIN

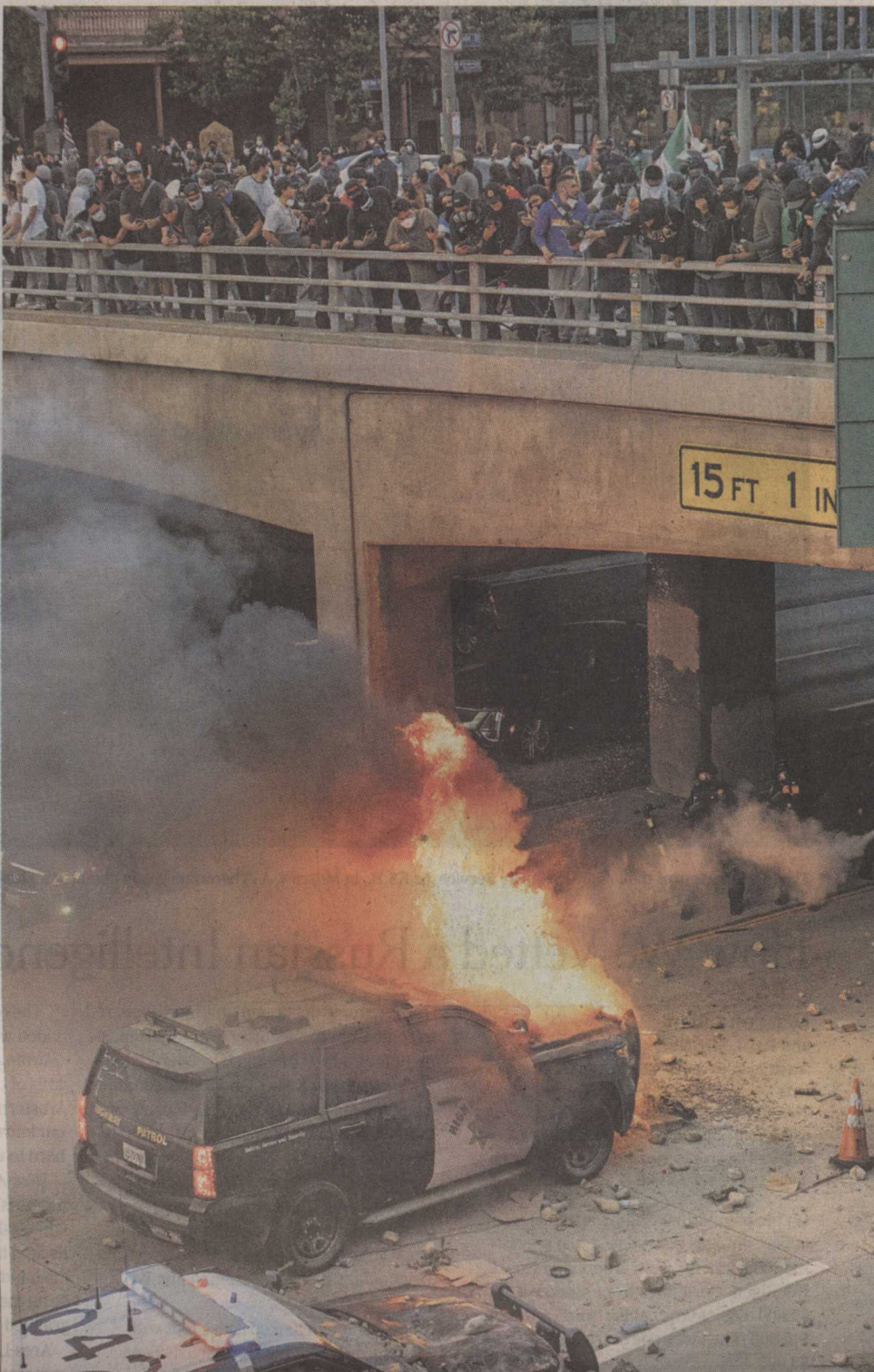
President Trump's proposed budget would make deep cuts in government health plans and medical research, and, critics say, could also make finding a doctor more difficult. It restricts loans that students rely on to pursue professional graduate degrees, making the path to becoming a physician harder even as doctor shortages loom and the American population is graying.

The domestic policy bill, which passed in the House last month, would cap direct federal unsubsidized loans at \$150,000 — far less than the cost of obtaining a medical education — and phase out the Grad PLUS loans that help many students make up the difference.

Medicine, dentistry and osteopathic medicine are among the most expensive graduate programs.

Four years of medical education costs \$286,454 at a public school, on average, and \$390,848 at a private one, according to the Association of American Medical Colleges. Medical school graduates leave with an average debt of \$212,341, the association found.

The price of a four-year program in osteopathic medicine is



Protesters burned a Highway Patrol vehicle on Sunday after immigration raids in Los Angeles.

## On Tariffs, Swagger in Public and Pleas in Court

By TONY ROMM

WASHINGTON — Shortly after a federal trade court declared many of President Trump's tariffs to be illegal, Howard Lutnick, the commerce secretary, took to television to brush aside the setback.

"It cost us a week, maybe," Mr. Lutnick said this month on Fox News, adding that other countries remained eager to strike new deals despite tariffs being in legal jeopardy.

"Everybody came right back to the table," he added.

With the fate of the president's

### Trump Aides Projecting Dueling Narratives on Trade Policy

tariffs hanging in the balance, the Trump administration has tried to project dueling narratives. Top aides have insisted publicly that their negotiations remain unharmed, even as some of those same officials have pleaded with the court to spare Mr. Trump from reputational damage on the global

stage.

The strategy faced two crucial tests on Monday. Mr. Lutnick and other top advisers met with their Chinese counterparts in London in the hopes of hammering out a new trade deal, and lawyers for the administration were expected to urge a federal appeals court anew to keep its tariffs in place.

The court could factor in "any

Continued on Page A12

**TARIFF TALKS** U.S. and Chinese officials are attempting to resolve their trade differences. PAGE B1



## NEWS ANALYSIS

## Trump Leaps at Chance For Clash in California

### Driving His Agenda and Defying a Rival

By TYLER PAGER

WASHINGTON — It is the fight President Trump had been waiting for, a showdown with a top political rival in a deep blue state over an issue core to his political agenda.

In bypassing the authority of Gov. Gavin Newsom of California, a Democrat, to call in the National Guard to quell protests in the Los Angeles area over his administration's efforts to deport more migrants, Mr. Trump is now pushing the boundaries of presidential authority and stoking criticism that he is inflaming the situation for political gain.

Local and state authorities had not sought help in dealing with the scattered protests that erupted after an immigration raid on Friday in the garment district. But Mr. Trump and his top aides leaned into the confrontation with California leaders on Sunday, portraying the demonstrations as an existential threat to the country — setting in motion an aggressive federal response that in turn sparked new protests across the city.

As more demonstrators took to the streets, the president wrote on social media that Los Angeles was being "invaded and occupied" by "violent, insurrectionist mobs," and directed three of his top cabinet officials to take any actions necessary to "liberate Los Angeles from the Migrant Invasion."

"Nobody's going to spit on our police officers. Nobody's going to spit on our military," Mr. Trump told reporters as he headed to Camp David on Sunday, although it was unclear whether any such incidents had occurred. "That happens, they get hit very hard."

The president declined to say whether he planned to invoke the

1807 Insurrection Act, which allows for the use of federal troops on domestic soil to quell a rebellion. But either way, he added, "we're going to have troops everywhere."

Stephen Miller, the White House deputy chief of staff, posted on social media that "this is a fight to save civilization."

Mr. Trump's decision to deploy at least 2,000 members of the California National Guard is the latest example of his willingness and, at times, an eagerness to shatter norms to pursue his political goals and bypass limits on presidential power. The last president to send in the National Guard for a domestic operation without a request from the state's governor, Lyndon B. Johnson, did so in 1965, to protect civil rights demonstrators in Alabama.

But aides and allies of the president say the events unfolding in Los Angeles provide an almost perfect distillation of why Mr. Trump was elected in November.

"It could not be clearer," said Newt Gingrich, the former Republican House speaker and ally of the president who noted that Mr. Trump had been focused on immigration enforcement since 2015. "One side is for enforcing the law and protecting Americans, and the other side is for defending illegals and being on the side of the people who break the law."

Sporadic protests have oc-

Continued on Page A10

**STANDOFF** California plans to sue the president over his deployment of the National Guard. PAGE A10

## Life in Crimea: Sunny Beaches And Raid Sirens

This article is by Neil MacFarquhar, Milana Mazaeva and Anna Lukinova.

Every month, Ukraine unleashes three or four attacks on the Crimea bridge. The latest one, last week, used underwater explosives to try to damage the support structure, Ukraine said.

Each salvo forces the bridge to close, disrupting the main artery between the Russian mainland and the Black Sea peninsula for up to seven hours. While official information is scarce, a channel on the Telegram app warns motorists to avoid crossing, as it did during another recent attack, because a "hail of shrapnel" peppers the bridge when Russia's considerable air defenses blast Ukrainian drones.

Ever since Russia seized Crimea in 2014 in a preview of its full-scale invasion of Ukraine eight years later, the peninsula has been a focal point of the conflict between the countries.

Moscow says its conquest righted a historical wrong, and it demanded in cease-fire negotiations in Istanbul last week that any settlement include international recognition of Russian control. Ukraine vows to never abandon its claim.

## Russia Is Wary Of Xi's China, Spy File Shows

This article is by Jacob Judah, Paul Sonne and Anton Troianovski.

In public, President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia says his country's growing friendship with China is unshakable — a strategic military and economic collaboration that has entered a golden era.

But in the corridors of Lubyanka, the headquarters of Russia's domestic security agency, known as the F.S.B., a secretive intelligence unit refers to the Chinese as "the enemy."

This unit, which has not previously been disclosed, has warned that China is a serious threat to Russian security. Its officers say that Beijing is increasingly trying to recruit Russian spies and get its hands on sensitive military technology, at times by luring disaffected Russian scientists.

The intelligence officers say that China is spying on the Russian military's operations in Ukraine to learn about Western weapons and warfare. They fear that Chinese academics are laying the groundwork to make claims on Russian territory. And they have warned that Chinese intelligence agents are carrying out espionage in the Arctic using mining firms and university research centers as cover.



# Los Angeles Times

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## Growing concerns of racial profiling

Immigrant advocates say people, including legal residents, are being targeted based on their skin color.

BY BRITTNY MEJIA  
AND RACHEL URANGA

Brian Gavidia had stepped out from working on a car at a tow yard in a Los Angeles suburb Thursday when armed, masked men — wearing vests with “Border Patrol” on them — pushed him up against a metal gate and demanded to know where he was born.

“I’m American, bro!” 29-year-old Gavidia pleaded, in video taken by a friend.

“What hospital were you born?” the agent barked.

“I don’t know, dawg!” he said. “East L.A., bro! I can show you: I have my f— Real ID.”

His friend, whom Gavidia did not name, narrated the video: “These guys, literally based off of skin color! My homie was born here!” The friend said Gavidia was being questioned “just because of the way he looks.”

In a statement Saturday, Homeland Security Assistant Secretary Tricia McLaughlin said U.S. citizens were arrested “because they ASSAULTED U.S. Border Patrol Agents.” (McLaughlin’s statement emphasized the word “assaulted” in all-capital and boldfaced letters.)

When told by a reporter that Gavidia had not been arrested, McLaughlin clarified that Gavidia had been questioned by Border Patrol agents but there “is no arrest record.” She said a friend of Gavidia’s was arrested for assault of an officer.

As immigration operations have unfolded across Southern California in the last week, lawyers and advocates say people are being targeted because of their skin color. The encounters with Gavidia and others they are tracking have [See Profiling, A7]



ICE AGENTS detain a protester accused of throwing objects outside a federal building in L.A. last week.

## Immigrant protests, tensions in L.A. reverberate in Mexico

Sheinbaum defends the demonstrators, placating her citizenry, which has been transfixed by coverage of city’s raids and rallies

BY PATRICK J. MCDONNELL

MEXICO CITY — The action may be on the streets of Los Angeles, but fallout from the immigrant protests is roiling politics in Mexico at a delicate moment — days before Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum is expected to meet President Trump in their much-anticipated inaugural face-to-face encounter.

Sheinbaum has been on the defensive since Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem — at an Oval Office event in Trump’s presence — accused the Mexican president on Tuesday of “encouraging violent protests.”

While Sheinbaum has assailed the U.S. immigration raids and backed immigrants’ rights to protest, there is no public record of [See Mexico, A7]



MEXICAN President Claudia Sheinbaum has had to face a delicate balancing act.

## Raids by ICE are stunning but no surprise

Angelenos staggered by speed and severity of mass deportations, though Trump agenda was clear from outset.

BY JENNY JARVIE  
AND GRACE TOOHEY

The threats weren’t subtle.

President Trump promised throughout his campaign that he would conduct the largest mass deportation in U.S. history. Migrants, he said, were “poisoning the blood” of the country and “getting them out will be a bloody story.”

“If I thought things were getting out of control,” the GOP candidate told Time magazine, “I would have no problem using the military.”

So it was perhaps inevitable, then, that after Trump was elected, the federal government was set for a historic showdown with the self-identified “sanctuary city” of Los Angeles, the vast metropolis where 1 in 3 residents is an immigrant.

L.A. County — home to 800,000 undocumented immigrants — has one of the nation’s most robust immigration rights networks. And these community groups were hosting “Know Your Rights” workshops, organizing patrols to alert residents of immigration sweeps and preparing, as much as they could, to resist.

Both sides had been building toward this moment for years — a city famous for embracing the immigrant experience and a White House that had made hostility toward those here illegally a hallmark of its agenda.

The upheaval last week on the streets of Los Angeles — immigration raids sweeping up workers and leaving communities in terror, scat-

[See Agenda, A6]

## Israel, Iran keep up bombardment

Trump warns Tehran against retaliating after it blamed U.S. in attacks

BY NABIH BULOS

BEIRUT — Iran and Israel traded air raids and ballistic missile barrages overnight and into the evening Sunday, with neither side showing any inclination to back down from an escalating grudge match between the two longtime enemies.

The fighting, which came after Israel launched wither-



## Eaton fire could hit most electricity bills

California officials consider extending monthly surcharge at three major utilities to bolster state fund.

BY MELODY PETERSEN

More than 30 million Californians across the state

lawsuits allege, the damage claims could quickly exhaust the state’s \$21-billion wildfire fund.

“Everyone is concerned about this,” said Michael Wara, director of Stanford’s climate and energy policy program, who was involved in the fund’s creation. “If we need to put more money into the fund, where will it come from?”

The wildfire fund was cre-



JUN 09 2025

## Is Musk falling back to Earth?

It's a challenging time for the world's richest man, who sees his projects unraveling both in D.C. and out.

BY MICHAEL WILNER

WASHINGTON — A Starship spun out of control in suborbital flight on Tuesday, failing to meet critical testing goals set by SpaceX in its plans for a mission to Mars. A poll released last week showed the national brand reputation for Tesla, once revered, had cratered. And later that same day, House Republicans passed a bill that would balloon the federal deficit.

It has been a challenging period for Elon Musk, the world's richest man, who not long ago thought he had conquered the private sector and could, in short order, do the same with the federal government. In just over four turbulent months, Musk risks his projects in both spheres unraveling.

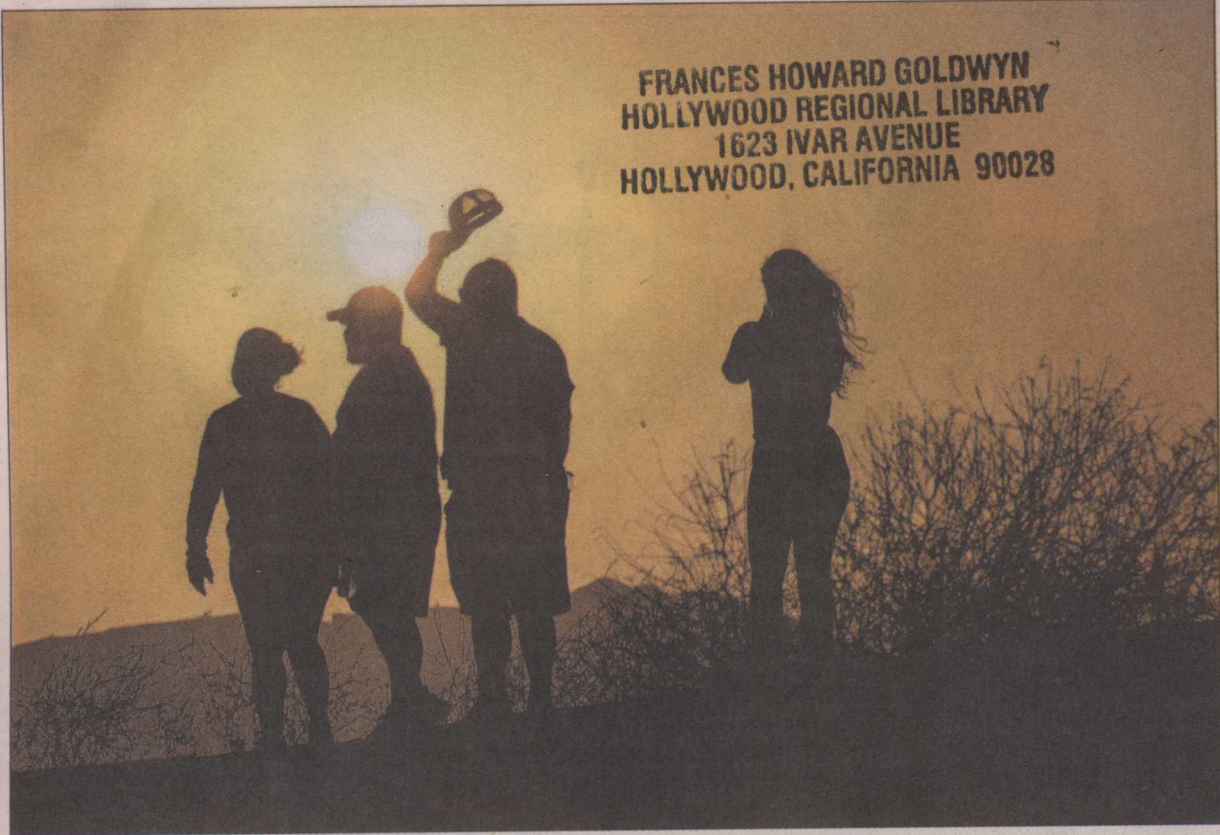
On Wednesday night, Musk wrote on X that his time in the Trump administration was coming to an end. The Associated Press reported that a White House official confirmed that Musk is leaving.

Also Wednesday, a federal judge in Washington ruled in favor of 14 states challenging Musk's appointment as a temporary government employee, questioning whether any of his work for the Department of Government Efficiency — a White House advisory team that levied steep cuts across agencies — was constitutional.

"I thought there were problems," Musk said in a recent interview with the Washington Post, "but it sure is an uphill battle trying to improve things in D.C., to say the least."

### Growing conflicts with Trump

Musk's role as an omnipresent advisor to President Trump began to wane weeks ago amid public backlash against DOGE's cuts to treasured government programs — including cancer research and the National Park Service — and after Trump bucked Musk's counsel on economic policy, launching a global trade war that jolted supply chains [See Musk, A7]



GINA FERRAZZI Los Angeles Times

A REPORT found an 80% chance that 2024 will be surpassed as the warmest year on record by 2029.

## An ever-hotter planet looms

BY CORINNE PURTILL

As hot, dry and disastrous as the last few years have been, it appears that the chaos caused by a warming planet is just getting started.

Though the hottest year in nearly two centuries was recorded only last year, the world will probably shatter that record yet again by 2029, according to a new report from the World Meteorological Organization, the climate and weather arm of the United Nations.

There is a very good chance that average warming over the next five years will be more than 2.7 degrees Fahrenheit, or 1.5 degrees Celsius, above preindustrial levels, the cap established by the Paris Agreement to ward off the worst consequences

### A new U.N. report warns of more frequent, intense natural disasters and chaotic climate 'whiplash'



MYUNG J. CHUN Los Angeles Times

RAPID SWINGS between wet-to-dry and dry-to-wet conditions are getting more common and intense.

of climate change. There's an even better chance that at least one of those years will be more than 2.7 degrees above the 1850 to 1900 average.

That means we can expect many more days when the weather feels freakish and far more natural disasters that cost people their homes, health or lives.

"It's pretty bleak," said Mike Flannigan, a fire scientist at Thompson Rivers University in British Columbia. "My fear is that [the coming years] will be even warmer than they suggest, and the impacts will continue to catch us by surprise and be more severe than we expect across the world, including the American West."

In the western U.S. states, including California, those effects most likely in [See Report, A12]

## Pendulum swing seen in latest L.A. budget

A decision to cut police hiring in half and other actions offer signs of a progressive realignment underway at City Hall

BY DAVID ZAHNISER

When tenant rights attorney Ysabel Jurado ran for Los Angeles City Council last year, she positioned herself as a potential fourth vote against Mayor Karen Bass' plan to hire more police officers.

While she was waging her campaign, the council's three-member super prog-

ressive bloc — Eunisses Hernandez, Nithya Raman and Hugo Soto-Martínez — voted against the mayor's budget, decrying the amount of money allocated for the Los Angeles Police Department. Jurado, who went on to unseat Councilmember Kevin de León, said she would have joined them, turning the 12-3 budget vote into an 11-4. Turns out none of that

was necessary.

Last week, the council approved a \$14-billion annual budget that would cut police hiring in half, while sparing hundreds of other city workers from layoffs. Jurado, now on the council, praised the spending plan, then voted for it.

And this time around, the council members on the losing end of a 12-3 vote were those who occupy the body's

more moderate wing: Monica Rodriguez, Traci Park and John Lee.

The shift in budget votes from last year to now offers perhaps the strongest evidence of the political pendulum swing underway at City Hall. When other recent votes are added to the equation, the council chamber might even be undergoing a permanent realignment. [See City Hall, A12]

## Trans kids in sports focus of inquiry

Federal officials are looking into whether California and others are violating the rights of cisgender girls.

BY KEVIN RECTOR, BRITTNY MEJIA AND HOWARD BLUME

The U.S. Justice Department has launched an investigation into whether California, its interscholastic sports federation and the Jurupa Unified School District are violating the civil rights of cisgender girls by allowing transgender students to compete in school sports, federal officials announced Wednesday.

The Justice Department is also throwing its support behind a pending lawsuit alleging similar violations of girls' rights in the Riverside Unified School District, said U.S. Atty. Bill Essayli, who oversees much of the Los Angeles region, and Assistant Atty. Gen. Harmeet Dhillon, who heads the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division.

Transgender track athletes have come under intense scrutiny in recent months in both Jurupa Valley and Riverside, with anti-LGBTQ+ activists attacking them on social media and screaming opposition to their competing at school meets.

Essayli and Dhillon, both Californians appointed under President Trump, have long fought against transgender rights in the state. Their announcements came one day after Trump threatened to withhold federal funding from California [See Transgender, A7]

### U.S. plans to sue several colleges

UC, others face "massive lawsuits," says official leading antisemitism task force. CALIFORNIA, B1

### Deputy's felony charge reduced

Judge makes change even though a jury had convicted the lawman of assaulting a woman. CALIFORNIA, B1

### Will this art museum exist?

Despite a foundation's proclamation, the future of a Joshua Tree project is unclear. ENTERTAINMENT, E1

### Flagship retail store to rebuild

of last resort. The California





JUN 09 2025

## DISASTER RESPONSE FUNDING REQUESTS REJECTED

L.A. council declines to increase emergency office's budget even after Palisades fire.

By MATT HAMILTON

Myriad calamities could hit the city of Los Angeles in coming years: Wildfires. Floods. Mudslides. Drought. And of course, the Big One.

Yet this month, L.A. leaders once again balked at dramatically increasing the budget of the city's Emergency Management Department, even as the office coordinates recovery from the Palisades fire and is tasked with helping prepare for a variety of disasters and high-profile events, such as the 2028 Summer Olympics.

Facing a nearly \$1-billion budget shortfall, the L.A. City Council voted 12 to 3 last week to pass a budget that rejected the funding increases requested by EMD leaders to hire more staffers and fix broken security equipment around its facility.

The only budgetary increase for EMD will come through bureaucratic restructuring. The department will absorb the five-person Climate Emergency Mobilization Office, which Mayor Karen Bass had slated for elimination in her initial proposal to trim the budget deficit.

The funding allotment for EMD — with an operating budget of about \$4.5 million — puts the department short of similar big cities in California and beyond.

As a 2022 audit by then-City Controller Ron Galperin noted, San Diego (\$2.46), Long Beach (\$2.26) and San Francisco (\$7.59) all spent more per capita on emergency management than L.A., which then spent \$1.56 per resident. Whereas L.A. has a staff of roughly 30, New York, with more than double the population of L.A., has 200 people in its emergency management team, and Philadelphia, with a population less than half of L.A.'s, has 53.

The current leaders of EMD, General Manager Carol Parks and Assistant [See Disasters, A6]

### A vandalism rampage in L.A.

An illegal downtown party leads to graffiti on businesses and more. CALIFORNIA, B1

### Test of a new free-speech law

Rights groups file briefs in court fight involving Blake Lively. ENTERTAINMENT, E1

### Teenage caddies earn big reward

Handworking trio



WALLY SKALIJ Los Angeles Times



MYUNG J. CHUN Los Angeles Times



JASON ARMOND Los Angeles Times

**A HOUSE**, top, burns in Pacific Palisades in January. After the Palisades fire, mudslides in Malibu, middle, were triggered by a storm, above, in February.

## Trump threatens state funds over trans athletes

President blasts Newsom, says he will cut federal dollars to California due to youth sports policy

By HANNAH FRY, HOWARD BLUME, STEVE HENSON AND TARYN LUNA

President Trump on Tuesday threatened to cut federal funding to California if the state continues allowing transgender athletes to compete in women's sports.

Trump blasted Gov. Gavin Newsom in an early morning post on Truth Social, saying the state under his leadership "continues to ILLEGALLY allow MEN TO PLAY IN WOMEN'S SPORTS."

"I will speak to him today to find out which way he wants to go???" Trump said

of Newsom. "In the meantime I am ordering local authorities, if necessary, to not allow the transitioned person to compete in the State Finals. This is a totally ridiculous situation!!!"

The president's post seemed to reference A.B. Hernandez, a Jurupa Valley High School junior who won the girls' long jump and triple jump during the California Interscholastic Federation Southern Section Masters Meet over the weekend.

The California Interscholastic Federation — which oversees sports at more than 1,500 high [See Athletes, A5]

## Paramount sale bogged down after Trump suit

Critics say settling over edits to a '60 Minutes' interview could be illegal payoff.

By MEG JAMES

One fateful October decision to trim two convoluted sentences from a "60 Minutes" interview with then-Vice President Kamala Harris has snowballed into a full-blown corporate crisis for CBS' parent company, Paramount Global, and its controlling shareholder, Shari Redstone.

President Trump's \$20-billion lawsuit — claiming "60 Minutes" producers deceptively manipulated the Harris interview to make her look smarter — has festered, clouding the future of Paramount and the company's hoped-for \$8-billion sale to David Ellison's Skydance Media.

The dispute over the edits has sparked massive unrest within the company, prompted high-level departures and triggered a Federal Communications Commission examination of alleged news distortion. The FCC's review of the Skydance deal has become bogged down, according to people familiar with the matter who weren't authorized to comment.

The agency, chaired by a Trump appointee, must approve the transfer of CBS television station licenses to the Ellison family for the deal to advance.

A lawsuit resolution, through court-ordered mediation, remains out of reach. And last week, three U.S. senators raised the stakes by suggesting, in a letter to Redstone, that a Trump settlement could be considered an illegal payoff.

Sens. Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.), Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) and Ron Wyden (D-Ore.) warned in their letter that any payment to Trump to gain favorable treatment by the FCC could violate federal anti-bribery laws. Paramount's dealings with Trump "raises serious concerns of corruption and improper conduct," the senators wrote.

"Under the federal bribery statute, it is illegal to corruptly give anything of value to public officials to influence an official act," the senators said.

Redstone is desperate for the Paramount-Skydance deal to go through.

Her family's holding company is cratering under a mountain of debt. Paramount's sale to the Ellison family would provide the clan \$2.4 billion for their preferred shares — proceeds that would allow the Redstones to pay their nearly \$600 million in debt — and

remain billionaires.

Paramount, Skydance and a spokesperson for Redstone declined to comment.

While recusing herself from granular and final decision-making, Redstone has made it clear that she wants Paramount to settle with Trump, rather than wage an ongoing beef with the sitting president, according to people familiar with the matter but not authorized to discuss internal deliberations.

Figuring a way out of the dispute has divided the company, according to insiders.

For CBS News professionals, apologizing to Trump over routine edits of a lengthy interview is a red [See Paramount, A9]

## Justices support school in T-shirt dispute

Court rejects student's claim of free-speech right to wear an 'only two genders' message.

By DAVID G. SAVAGE

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court on Tuesday turned down a middle-school student's claim that he had a free-speech right to wear a T-shirt stating there are "only two genders."

Over two dissents, the justices let stand a ruling that said a school may enforce a dress code to protect students from "hate speech" or bullying.

After three months of internal debate, the justices decided they would not take up another conservative culture-war challenge to progressive policies that protect LGBTQ+ youths.

Justice Samuel A. Alito Jr. filed a 14-page dissent joined only by Justice Clarence Thomas. He said the case "presented an issue of great importance for our nation's youth: whether public schools may suppress student speech because it expresses a viewpoint the schools disfavor."

Liam Morrison, a seventh-grader from Massachusetts, said he was responding to his school's promotion of Pride Month when students were encouraged to wear rainbow colors and posters urged them to "rise up to protect trans and gender-nonconforming students."

Two years ago, he went to school wearing a black T-shirt that said "There are

## Was there more to their mom's death?

one of her three daughters









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Beautiful loft at the legendary Flower Street Lofts. The Property features 15- foot ceilings and is one of the most beautiful units in the building, with fresh paint through-out, kitchen cabinets resurfaced. West-facing floor plan with with views of up-coming Oceanwide Plaza from floor-to-ceiling living room windows, and views of common area outdoor hallway from the bedroom windows. One of the very few buildings in South Park zoned and fully entitled for Live/Work. HOA incl. 2 reserved parking spaces (1 covered, 1 uncovered), and Spectrum package that incl. WiFi Internet, Basic Cable + HBO MAX & Showtime, 1 NVR, & 1 NR Recording. It's a GREAT time to invest & live in DTLA: BILLIONS of \$ going into DTLA development in prep for the 2026 World Cup & 2028 Olympics, incl. newly paved streets everywhere, plus exciting new construction in the neighborhood. Neighborhood amenities incl. Crypto.com Arena, Ritz-Carlton, upcoming Oceanwide Plaza, Cana Rum Bar, Prank Bar, Hygge Bakery, Starbucks, Pine & Crane, South Park Pharmacy & Grocery, Orange Theory Fitness, Ralph's Fresh Market, Whole Foods. moments from all of South Park's other restaurants and hot spots.



RASMUS RAY LEE CalDRE #01490488  
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Information deemed reliable but cannot be guaranteed.

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MODIFY: RASH + KLANSTUMBLR HOME  
LINK: DUNESECCD + (ARMERSON) GEX  
SITE ARCHITECTURE: 8  
NAXAR / ARRIBUS

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DETERMINING: MinneTypes

SKIN PICKING ✓

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✓ SPITALFE DAM DUMPKS  
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MOUNTAIN

CAN BILL GATES SAVE METROLIA?

✓ USGS WATER OFFICE

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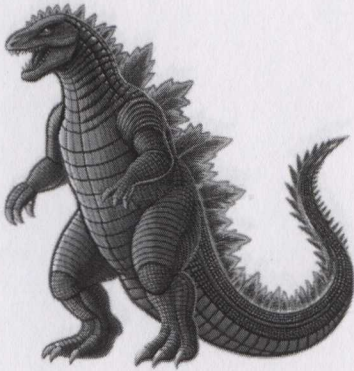
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BEFORE AFTER MAPS  
JAPANESE

— TYPE TUTOR CORAL  
PERFECT BLUE ANIME

CINERAMA

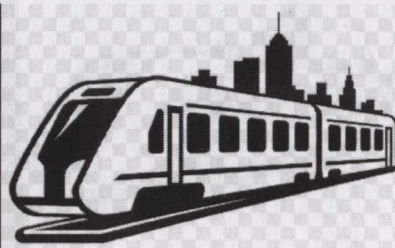
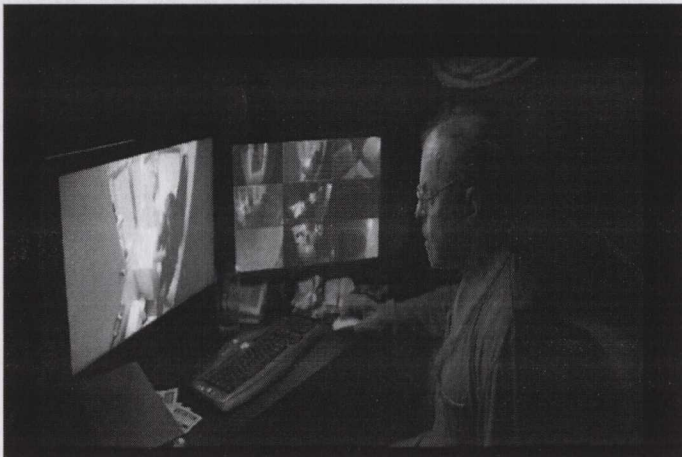




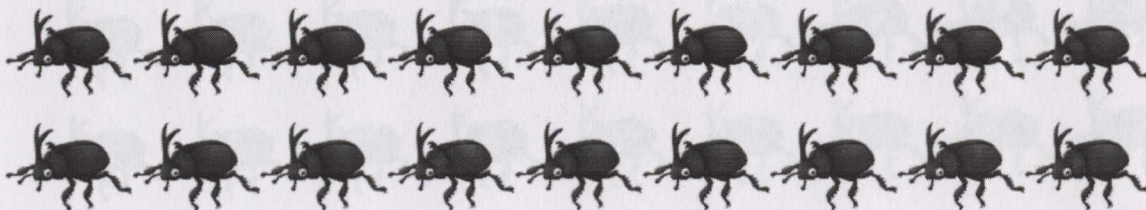
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WATCHING YOU PESTS TAKE METRO TRAINS

FROM HIS LAB IN UNION STATION..YOU ARE \*\*\*\* STILL  
\*\*\*\* BURNING YOUR CALORIES YOU LAB-RAT PESTS!!!



 UN -DOCUMENTED BEETLES UR IN FOR A RUDE  
AWKENING 2025-2029     







**OUT OF  
LA**





# MILITARY OUT OF OUR STREETS



# Service Sites

## 3rd Thursday of the Month

Casa Milagrosa

161 S Alvarado Street, Los Angeles, CA 90057

**Hours:** 9am-12pm

**Clothing:** Project Ropa's Mobile Clothing Closet and Hygiene Kits

**Showers:** LA City Sanitation

**Food Partner:** Casa Milagrosa

All items are first come first serve.

\*Last sign up for clothing at 11:30am

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## 2nd & 4th Friday of the Month

Blessed Sacrament Church

6657 Sunset Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90028

**Hours:** 12pm-2pm

**Clothing:** Project Ropa's Grab and Go Packs as well as shoes, pants and hygiene kits.

**Food Partner:** Genevieve's Garden (lunch available)

All items are first come first serve.

\*No showers or mobile clothing closet on-site

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## Last Tuesday of the Month

The Hope Center

4903 Fountain Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90029

**Hours:** 9am-12pm

**Clothing:** Project Ropa's Mobile Clothing Closet and Hygiene Kits

**Showers:** Day of Hope

**Other:** Food, medical clinic, haircuts and more (may vary per month)

All items are first come first serve.

\*Last sign up for clothing at 11:30am

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ROPA®**

Project Ropa is 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization helping to reduce waste, empower lives and restore dignity to people with barriers by providing employment opportunities and clothing and hygiene essentials.

[projectropa.org](http://projectropa.org)



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U.S. Small Business  
Administration

## U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION FACT SHEET - DISASTER LOANS

### CALIFORNIA Declaration #20953 & #20954

(Disaster: CA-20030)

### Incident: WILDFIRES & STRAIGHT-LINE WINDS

occurring: January 7 through January 31, 2025

in Los Angeles County, California;

and for economic injury only in the contiguous California counties of:  Kern, Orange, San Bernardino & Ventura

#### Application Filing Deadlines:

Physical Damage: March 31, 2025

Economic Injury: October 8, 2025

If you are located in a declared disaster area, you may be eligible for financial assistance from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA).

#### What Types of Disaster Loans are Available?

- Business Physical Disaster Loans – Loans to businesses to repair or replace disaster-damaged property owned by the business, including real estate, inventories, supplies, machinery and equipment. Businesses of any size are eligible. Private, non-profit organizations such as charities, churches, private universities, etc., are also eligible.
- Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL) – Working capital loans to help small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture, and most private, non-profit organizations of all sizes meet their ordinary and necessary financial obligations that cannot be met as a direct result of the disaster. These loans are intended to assist through the disaster recovery period.
- Home Disaster Loans – Loans to homeowners or renters to repair or replace disaster-damaged real estate and personal property, including automobiles.

#### What are the Credit Requirements?

- Credit History – Applicants must have a credit history acceptable to SBA.
- Repayment – Applicants must show the ability to repay all loans.

#### What are the Interest Rates?

By law, the interest rates depend on whether each applicant has Credit Available Elsewhere. An applicant does not have Credit Available Elsewhere when SBA determines the applicant does not have sufficient funds or other resources, or the ability to borrow from non-government sources, to provide for its own disaster recovery. An applicant, which SBA determines to have the ability to provide for his or her own recovery is deemed to have Credit Available Elsewhere. Interest rates are fixed for the term of the loan. The interest rates applicable for this disaster are:

Physical Damage Loan Types	No Credit Available Elsewhere	Credit Available Elsewhere
Home Loans	2.563%	5.125%
Business Loans	4.000%	8.000%
Non-Profit Organizations	3.625%	3.625%

Economic Injury Loan Types	No Credit Available Elsewhere	Credit Available Elsewhere
Businesses & Small Agricultural Cooperatives	4.000%	N/A
Non-Profit Organizations	3.625%	N/A

#### What are Loan Terms?

The law authorizes loan terms up to a maximum of 30 years. However, the law restricts businesses with credit available elsewhere to a maximum 7-year term. SBA sets the installment payment amount and corresponding maturity based upon each borrower's ability to repay. Borrowers may be required to provide collateral.



WE'VE BATTLED FIRE, NOW IT'S TIME TO MELT ICE.

# SUMMER OF RESISTANCE

30 ARTISTS. 30 ACTIVATIONS. 30 DAYS TO PUSH BACK

PLACITA OLVERA  
8:00 AM - 8:00 PM

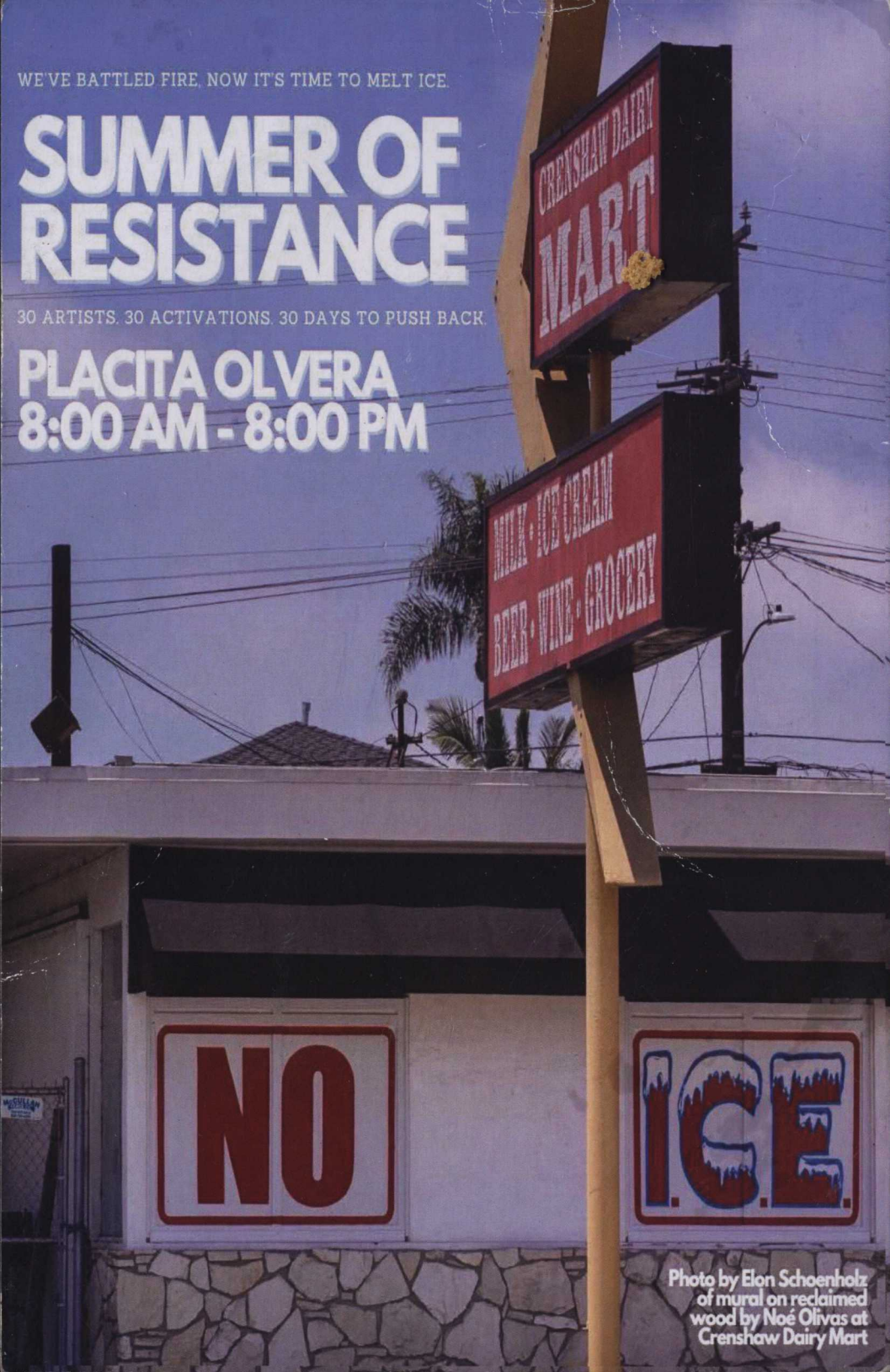


Photo by Elon Schoenholz  
of mural on reclaimed  
wood by Noé Olivas at  
Crenshaw Dairy Mart



# SUMMER OF RESISTANCE



**8AM - 2PM**  
**Community Resources**

**2PM - 5PM**  
**Interactive + Art Workshops**

**5PM - 7PM**  
**Music + DJs + Entertainment**

SOR coalition is a growing network of Worker Unions, Non-Profits, Community Organizations and Music + Cultural Workers aiming to create a cultural safe space to engage and mobilize our LA community to push back against the militant occupation of our city. We've battled fire, now it's time to melt ICE.

**@SUMMEROFRESISTANCE**



## CALIFORNIA

WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 2025 :: LATIMES.COM/CALIFORNIA



THE PALISADES fire is reflected in a backyard pool on Jan. 10. Stagnant pools in the burn zones have become mosquito breeding grounds.

JASON ARMOND Los Angeles Times

## Vandals' rampage in L.A. sparks outrage

'Officers were heavily outnumbered' when a crowd of partiers took over downtown streets, leaving a trail of graffiti, LAPD says.

BY NATHAN SOLIS  
AND RICHARD WINTON

Customers peered through the graffiti-covered doors and windows in downtown Los Angeles on Tuesday morning, unsure what was open and what was closed after what transpired over the weekend.

On Saturday night, police say, hundreds of people showed up for an illegal party in downtown Los Angeles, with a group of them later spilling out into the surrounding neighborhood where they wreaked havoc — vandalizing vehicles, storefronts and even a Metro train.

Los Angeles police responded to the area, where the crowd then vandalized their vehicles. One officer was injured when hit in the face with a bottle, police said. In the end, no arrests were made.

"Our officers were heavily outnumbered and so the decision was: clear the area rather than make arrests. But I can assure you we will find those responsible," said Los Angeles Police Department Cmdr. Lillian Caranza.

For locals, what transpired felt like some of the city's issues were amplified and on full display.

"This type of vandalism happens every day, but never to this extent," said Dr. Afshin Akhavan, who runs the House of Health clinic on Washington Boulevard. "We really need to teach the future generations how to care for one another. How would you like it if this happened to your home?"

The windows of Akhavan's practice were covered in red and black spray paint, along with many surrounding businesses. Employees at some were still scraping graffiti off their windows Tuesday morning.

"I hope that they face some type of fines or at least jail time. I don't know," said Teddy Lee, owner of DTLA Window Tint, whose store cameras captured some of the weekend incident.

In his store surveillance video, men wearing baseball caps and T-shirts are seen casually approaching his business with spray cans and vandalizing it. Others

[See Vandals, B2]

## Another post-fire danger: Mosquitoes

Cleanup efforts after the devastating Eaton and Palisades fires are underway, but an ongoing concern is swimming pools in the two burn zones, many of which contain stagnant water that has become a breeding ground for mosquitoes that can carry diseases.

In the region affected by the Eaton fire, officials responsible for mosquito control say they do not have the funds needed to provide sufficient treatment for all the pools that are now possible mosquito hot spots. That has sparked public health concerns in an area that has recently seen spikes in locally acquired cases of dengue fever, a potentially fatal mosquito-borne disease.

In mid-May, the San Gabriel Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District, which serves Altadena, Pasadena and Sierra Madre, identified some 1,475 pools in the burn zone as "nonfunctional" — meaning they contained stagnant water due to ash and debris, damaged equipment, or the homeowner's inability to maintain the pool at the time. Most of the pools are located in Altadena, and the district has so far been able to treat about half of them with pesticides.

Vector control officials say they don't have enough funds to treat all the unmaintained pools where insects breed

By Lila Seidman

The agency says it should be able to treat the other half with resources it will have available to it, but lacks the funding to provide the two follow-up applications experts say are needed to continue to

stave off mosquito breeding throughout the year.

Indeed, officials found mosquitoes breeding in roughly 80% of the approximately 700 pools in the burn area that they treated with pesticides to date. A single pool can become a breeding ground for as many as 3 million mosquitoes in one month.

"This is a public health concern. It will be a risk if it doesn't get addressed," said Anais Medina Diaz, spokesperson for the San Gabriel Valley vector control district, which spans 26 cities and unincorporated areas. Vector control districts are local agencies tasked with managing disease-spreading critters such as mosquitoes.

Mosquitoes lay their eggs on or near stagnant water. When they hatch, the young develop in the water before emerging as buzzing adults.

District officials have spent \$307,000 to apply a pesticide treatment to about half of the 1,475 affected pools, mostly on the perimeter of the burn scar, Diaz said.

District officials had planned to use that money to respond to anticipated cases of dengue fever, a viral infection spread by invasive mosquitoes.

[See Mosquitoes, B4]

Voices GUSTAVO ARELLANO COLUMNIST

## Ex-Carson mayor is back in news, if not on top

'Little Al' Robles has had a career with many controversies and grievances.

When the world calls you "Little Al," you're going to do what it takes to be seen.

That's what I thought after spending an hour at the Porsche Experience Center in Carson with former Mayor Albert Robles.

He's not the Albert Robles who was found guilty 19 years ago of fleecing South Gate out of \$20 million as treasurer — that's Big Al Robles. Little Al is the one who has tried to be a political somebody in L.A. County for more than 30 years, only to almost always fall short, his career careening from one controversy to another.

In 2006, he was the attorney for three men who moved to Vernon in an attempt to take over the City Council; they all lost. That same year, Little Al represented Big Al — no,

they're not actually related — at the latter's sentencing and argued that his client deserved leniency since what he did was common in California politics. The presiding judge replied, "What you have just said is among the most absurd things I have ever heard."

The year after he was elected Carson's mayor in 2015, the Fair Political Practices Commission fined Robles \$12,000 to resolve allegations of campaign finance law violations. Two years after that, Robles' 24-year tenure on the board of directors for Water Re-

plenishment District of Southern California — an obscure agency that provides water for 44 cities in L.A. County — ended after a Superior Court judge ruled he couldn't hold that seat at the same time that he was serving as mayor.

He lost the mayoral seat in the 2020 general election after striking out in his bid for county supervisor in the primary that year. Robles has been unsuccessful in two other races since — for an L.A. County Superior Court seat in 2022 and a state Senate primary last year in which he garnered

just 8.5% of the vote.

"I keep thinking I'm done and then I'm not done," the 56-year-old joked at one point in our conversation as Caymans and Carreras roared through the test track as we lounged in a nearby patio. "It's kind of like they dragged me back in."

We met to talk about his latest waltz with the headlines: He's the lawyer for former Huntington Park Councilmember Esmeralda Castillo. She's suing the city to get her seat back after an internal investigation found

[See Arellano, B5]

May gray persists but temperatures are set to start rising